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Issue No 1
Available from Wednesday,
March 25, 2009

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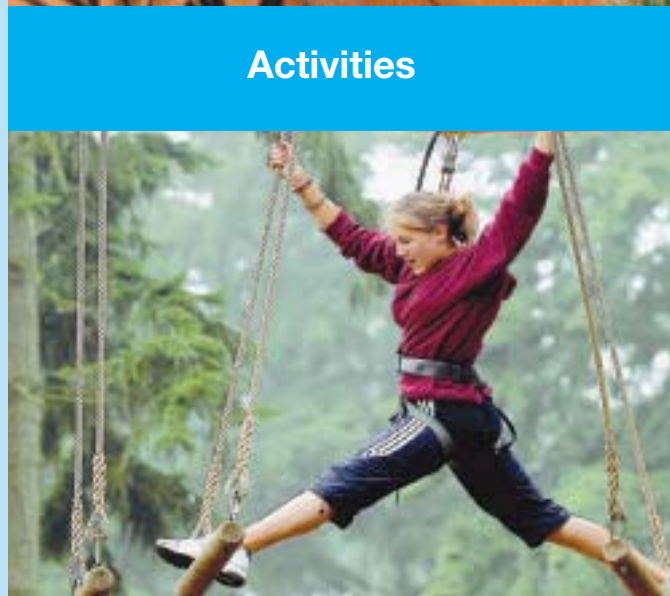
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ROAD TO NOWHERE: What's this business at Betteshanger? Search 'Betteshanger'

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STILL OUR NUMBER ONE

On Sunday, July 12, the Royal Marines will play at the memorial bandstand to help mark the 20th anniversary of the IRA bombing. The bandstand is on schedule for a complete £20,000 refurbishment.

■ BY NICK AMES

WORK is on schedule to get Deal bandstand shipshape for this summer's concerts marking the 20th anniversary of the bombing of the Royal Marines School of Music.

The IRA atrocity in which 11 young soldiers died and a further 21 were seriously injured is a time that many townsfolk remember with absolute clarity – September 22, 1989.

And the memorial bandstand on Walmer Green helps to remember the lives lost and those scarred forever in the bombing – it is a focal point for the town.

Each year there are a number of concerts from May through to September.

But now the structure has needed restoring and a fund-raising campaign has raised £20,000.

The highlight of this summer's planned events will take place on Sunday, July 12, when the Band of the Royal Marines will march through the town and play a concert on the bandstand.

Some 10,000 people are expected to attend this anniversary show.

"It is the major event of the summer and sure to be a very emotional one," said Steven Parks, secretary of the bandstand trust.

"At present the work on the bandstand is proceeding according to schedule and fine weather could see it completed in a couple of weeks. That will ensure it is all ready for the summer of concerts."

The bandstand takes the force of weather

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2 EmCee Flapjack is back. See broadband TV channel www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'flapjack'.



3 Julie Maddocks shops for clothes on a budget. See broadband TV channel www.yourkenttv.co.uk and search 'money'.

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The day no one will ever forget

■ BY NICK AMES

THE Deal bombing resulted in the destruction of a recreational centre and accommodation barracks at the Royal Marines School of Music.

The building collapsed following the detonation of a Provisional Irish Republican Army bomb inside the building at 8.27am.

Ten marines were killed instantly and another died 36 days later as a direct result of the wounds he suffered in the blast. Twenty-one marines were also badly injured.

Residents reported that the explosion was heard several miles away, shaking windows in the centre of Deal and creating a pall of smoke over the town.

The majority of the personnel were practising marching on the barracks parade ground when the explosion occurred. The marines witnessed the buildings collapse, and many of the teenage personnel were in a state of shock for days afterwards.

Some marines had remained behind in the building and so received the full force of the explosion, many being trapped in the rubble for hours despite desperate rescue efforts.

The IRA claimed responsibility for the bombing. Many people were shocked at the attack carried out on a ceremonial military band whose only training was geared towards saving lives – they would work as stretcher-bearers in a combat zone. The public was also shocked by the ages of those killed, as many were new recruits and the majority of those injured in their teens.

One week after the bombing, the staff and students of the School of Music marched through the town of Deal, watched and applauded by thousands of spectators.

They maintained gaps in their ranks, marking the positions of those unable to march through death or serious injury.

The surviving barracks were converted into flats when the base was decommissioned in the late 90s, and the School of Music is based in Portsmouth.

No one has ever been arrested or convicted in connection with the Deal bombing.

£20,000 refit for bandstand

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

from the sea and the repairs will be done by contractors C J Gray, who are based in Deal.

It will cost anywhere from £10,000 to £20,000.

Mr Parks said: "We will not know the exact figure until the contractors have fully examined what needs to be done."

"What we do know is that the outside of the roof has to be replaced and the metalwork stripped down. This is due to salt damage."

"Because the bandstand is close to the sea, there really is nothing that can be done to prevent this."

"The brickwork needs attention, and the floor where musicians play. But as things are going, all this work can be attended to and we can look forward to a summer of music."

The march by the Marines prior to the concert will start at the former church which served the base before going into Canada Road.

Soldiers will then halt parallel to the memorial garden which has been built on the site of the bomb explosion before re-entering the barracks and going through the Jubilee Gates into Dover Road.

The parade will then continue along The Strand before terminating at Walmer Green.

Council staff sick days soar to more than 10-day average

DOVER District Council employees took the second highest number of sick days last year out of all the local authorities in Kent.

Figures revealed during an overview and scrutiny committee meeting at Ashford Borough Council showed an average Dover council worker took 10.50 days off sick in 2007/08.

Only staff in Shepway took more, with 10.75 days off.

The table showed in 2006/07 employees at Dover council, based in Whitfield, took 8.63 days off, showing a two-day rise the following year.

But a spokesman at Dover District Council defended staff by stating that the number of sick days included Saturdays and Sundays – when employees were not at work anyway.

"The figures quoted for 2007/08 included weekends as part of the calculation for total sickness days."

"This calculation has been reviewed to base sickness absence on actual days lost, and as at December 31, the figure is 6.67 days per full-time equivalent, which is comparable to other local authorities in Kent."

A spokesman at Ashford council, however, said the figures were correct, representing accurate findings.

The lowest number of sick days taken by a local authority in 2007/08 was in Thanet, with just 7.42; the highest were Shepway, Sevenoaks, Canterbury and Dover – all averaging over ten per year.

A Dover council spokesman said the authority took a proactive approach to managing sick absence.

Reading group enables you to hear all about it

VISUALLY-impaired people are being given the chance to enjoy reading through a new group.

The Audio Reading Group at Deal Library had a taster session in the gallery on Saturday.

Guest speaker Tony Wells, from the Whitecliffs Talking Newspaper, gave a presentation and explained what was done at the charity.

The event was held to inform people of the service and to sign up new members.

The group is open to anyone with visual impairment or any other reading disability and is held on the third Saturday of every month.

People wanting to join can leave their details with a member of staff at the library or phone 01304 374726.

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Road to nowhere

■ BY MARIJKE COX

DAMAGED trees, empty land and a road leading to nowhere – this is what people living near the new Betteshanger Business Park think of the £19 million development.

The 289-acre site, which sits between Deal and Sandwich, was formerly a tip and Kent's biggest colliery, employing hundreds of miners throughout much of the 20th century.

In 2002 – almost 13 years after it was closed down – the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) put forward regeneration plans following close consultations with Dover District Council, Kent County Council and English Partnerships.

Chris Moore, senior regeneration manager of SEEDA at the time, spoke of turning the derelict site into a new centre for employment, community and parkland.

But seven years on, after extensive work levelling out the old pit and costs totalling £18.753 million, the land remains empty.

Peter Holden, secretary of the Betteshanger Social Club, said construction started in 2004 but the site had been untouched since 2006.

He said: "I can't speak for everyone, but the general feeling is a lot of money has been wasted. The road through the site leads nowhere and the land's been left empty."

"The road through there has only just been opened, so there hasn't been any access since it was developed and it doesn't actually lead anywhere anyway."

"I've been here 30 years and this new development hasn't done anything to change the area. It's just not economical."

An employee from Almond House offices, based at the back of the site, feels the same.

Regenerated business park has been developed from nothing into... nothing



WIDE OPEN SPACE: Betteshanger Business Park – it was approved in 2002 but is unchanged since 2006

"The road has only just been opened – we go to work through the back entrance. Nothing's been going on here for ages – it's just been sitting empty. I can't imagine anyone coming to start a business here now with the recession going on."

But SEEDA is confident businesses will move to the site, claiming talks are in place with several companies.

A spokesman said: "The physical regeneration of the site began in 2004, with the bulk of the work completed by mid-2006."

"There is contractually a minimum 12-month defects liability period for the construction, landscaping and road before it can be open to the public. Public highway status for the road is essential, otherwise any business

moving on to the site would be forced to pay maintenance costs for the road."

"All maintenance works were complete in early 2008, with the road finally receiving public highway status in late 2008 from Kent County Council, who are now the owners."

"We are now talking with several companies interested in locating to the area and we hope to see visible progress on the site in the near future."

According to SEEDA, the project has been completed on time and on budget, with most of the costs being spent on buying the site from private landowners.

Fowlmead Country Park is part of the project, as well as a community park for a local housing estate, both of which are in use.

CATCH SOME SPRING SUN

Spring is a good time to be in Deal. And while the bronze statue to fishermen has seen it all before, business at the new café-bar on nearby Deal pier is booming.

And Farah Caplan, who runs the site, is expecting even more visitors as the schools break up for the Easter holidays.

She said: "Last week was fantastic. The weather was beautiful and we had lots of people coming up here."

"We also held a Turkish night on Saturday which was a sell-out – we had to turn people away we were so full."



Help team to restore club

DEAL Town FC is looking for volunteers to help finish work on the new clubhouse.

A number of portable buildings are being used at the St Leonard's Road ground, but they are in need of refurbishment.

The club says it will gladly accept any offers of help on Sundays when work is being carried out on the ground and its facilities.

Volunteers should arrive between 10am and noon. All offers of help for the Kent League club will be well appreciated and accepted with many thanks!

There's still time to market your idea for a new location

PEOPLE in Deal have until Tuesday of next week to put across their ideas for a proposed new location for Deal market.

Members of Dover District Council are thinking about moving the Saturday market from the Union Road car park to a different location.

They say they would welcome suggestions for an alternative site from members of the public.

A spokesman for the council said: "During 2007, Peter Brett Associates undertook the formulation of a parking strategy for Deal, Dover and Sandwich."

"A consultation exercise was carried out and one of the key messages resulted in a recommendation to relocate Deal market from the Union Road car park on Saturdays."

"It is recognised this market needs to be sited in the north end of the town centre but that relocating it would free up much-needed additional car-parking spaces on Saturdays."

Several options are under discussion; they include:

- Relocate to the pedestrianised area in the High Street
- Relocate to Stanhope Road
- Relocate to the High Street between Duke Street and Union Road
- Sunday market instead of Saturday, and remain in the Union Road car park

The market is extremely popular and draws a range of customers from across the area.

The spokesman added: "The district council is committed to supporting Deal market and to locating it where the community wants it to be."

"It has always been appreciated that it must stay in the north end of Deal, to support both the businesses in the area, and the market itself."

"There have already been more than 50 replies to the consultation. Most of the responses want the market to stay where it is, or to move to the High Street between Duke Street and Union Road."

All responses should be sent to diannehopper@dover.gov.uk.



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Dover Grammar pupils talk about Splat Productions. Search 'Splat'

Thief sneaked into house to steal PC

POLICE are appealing for information after the theft of a Dell laptop and handbag from an address in Dover.

The theft took place between 10pm on Saturday, March 14, and 8.30am the following day at the Eric Road property.

Police are urging residents to lock their doors and close their windows at night.

PC Andy Perham said: "This crime was committed while the occupants were home, but the doors were unlocked."

"Domestic burglaries are down by 22.9 per cent in the Dover district this financial year compared with last."

"In fact, there are on average less than five break-ins a week. Help us to keep burglary down and please do all you can to keep your property secure."

Anyone with information about the break-in is asked to phone PC Andy Perham on 01304 240055 or Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Bank holiday fun for the family at castle

FAMILIES are being invited to Walmer Castle over the bank holiday weekend for some Easter fun.

From Friday, April 10, to Monday, April 13, from 10am-5pm, there will be a host of activities available, including an Easter trail, storytelling and a face painter to entertain youngsters.

Chocolate treats are on offer for kids that unscramble the Easter trail and between midday and 4pm local storyteller Tony Cooper will be on hand to tell magical tales where audience participation will be encouraged.

Admission is £6.70 for adults, £5.70 for concessions and £3.40 for children. A family ticket is £16.80. English Heritage members are admitted free.

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The inaugural sailing of the LD Lines ferry between Dover and Boulogne. Search 'ferry'

MP's job not one for the faint-hearted

■ BY MARIJKE COX

MANY people know little about the day-to-day work carried out by MPs across the country at the Houses of Parliament.

So when MP Gwyn Prosser, who has represented Dover and Deal for the past 12 years, invited Yourdover to shadow him for a day in Westminster, it was hard to turn down.

This brief glimpse into a typical day of an MP showed the reality of a job very much in the public eye – the peaks, the troughs and the constant running around.

But it's all worth it, according to the father-of-three from River, who was re-elected to represent Dover and Deal in 2001 and 2005.

Privatisation

He said: "Before I was elected I came up here for a debate on the Channel Tunnel and one of the MPs left ten minutes into the meeting."

"At the time I thought 'how rude' but now I realise how hard it is to get to everything."

Mr Prosser begins his day with a two-mile bike ride to Portcullis House in Westminster, which has provided office space for MPs since it was built in 2001.

His first engagement that day is a debate at Westminster Hall regarding the threat of privatisation of security at HMRC.

Following this, Mr Prosser meets with Pete Norris, branch secretary of the PCS Union, to discuss the situation in relation to Dover.

He winds up the meeting 15 minutes later to get ready for the Speaker's procession prior to

Prime Minister's Questions in the House of Commons – the first held since the death of David Cameron's son Ivan three weeks ago.

Mr Prosser said: "When asking a question you have to say it correctly or you'll be heckled by the other party. Or if you read it from a sheet they shout out 'reading, reading.'"

"I think this session will be a bit different though because of the death of David Cameron's son."

The House of Commons is surprisingly small, with the public gallery sectioned off with a transparent barrier, installed following an incident in 2004 when purple powder was launched at Tony Blair by a Father's for Justice protester.

After the session, Mr Prosser rushes to the launch of the WWF Big Switch Off event.

Every minute is crammed full of meetings, events and interviews before going over the agenda with his PA Jo Knight – and even these moments can be interrupted when the Division Bell rings.

This sounds out throughout all the parliamentary buildings to signal a vote is about to take place and each MP has exactly eight minutes to get to the chamber's lobbies.

Mr Prosser said: "When eight minutes is up the Speaker shouts 'lock the doors' and if you're not there in time, you're locked out and you don't get to vote."

On one occasion, the Labour MP arrived thinking he was on time, but as he went to



HECTIC TIMES: Dover and Deal MP Gwyn Prosser's day is crammed with meetings, events and interviews

walk through, the door was closed on his arm. He laughed: "Sometimes I think they enjoy it if we're late."

His next appointment is a meeting with members of the All Party Maritime Group to discuss a merger with the Associated Parliamentary Ports and Merchant Navy Group, of which Mr Prosser is chairman.

But the Division Bell rings and he rushes off to vote again.

On his return, merger details are finalised and then it's a quick interview with Meridian before meeting with a constituent.

He said: "Any of my constituents can come here and lobby me and I will always try my hardest to see them."

"I'm also in Dover on Fridays and on Monday mornings so people can see me then too."

It's then on to the final meeting to discuss a study tour in Holland for the All Party Parliamentary Cycling Group, of which Mr Prosser is also chairman.

As the day ends and Mr Prosser heads back to his office, it's clear to see that whether a backbencher, a cabinet minister or a committee member, each MP has their work cut out for them.

Grant worth £6m to boost employment in Aylesham

A MULTI-million-pound investment is being pumped into Aylesham to help with employment and training.

The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) has approved a £6 million grant in recognition of the needs of the former coal-field community.

The funding will enable the creation of 356 jobs through the development of offices and other employment and training spaces.

It is hoped the investment will meet the employment needs of the community which is

expected to double in size over the next 15 years.

David Edwards, South East regional director for the HCA, formerly English Partnerships, said the organisation was delighted to be able to confirm the funding.

"It demonstrates our commitment to the town and to those who worked at the nearby Snowdown. We remain committed to Aylesham and have put in time and effort to develop plans to help Aylesham's growth."

HCA's focus is to expand the Miner's Way

Business Park with new workshop, office and training space and also to refurbish the Greyhound pub with the same facilities and community space.

The aim of the new proposals is to maintain the original development goal of creating new and sustainable employment opportunities in the town.

Mr Edwards said: "Projects such as this require a lot of thought, effort and commitment and we will be working with our partners and the community."

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Ferry rivals on collision course over subsidies

P&O Ferries is seeking an injunction against a French local authority, claiming it provides illegal subsidies for LD Lines.

The action against the Syndicat Mixte de Promotion de l'activité Transmanche (SMPAT) is based on alleged breaches of French administrative law and EU state aid law.

According to P&O, public money from French taxpayers is being given to LD Lines and its sister company Transmanche Ferries to support the Newhaven routes to France.

Support

But the company states that some of this funding was also used in the recent expansion of LD Lines's new routes from Dover to Dieppe and Boulogne.

Michelle Ulyatt, from P&O, explained how money is given by SMPAT to support the Newhaven route and help keep it in service, but that other firms on the Channel are also being given subsidies.

She said: "The situation as it is doesn't provide a level playing field for ferry companies."

"In our case we don't get any assistance,

■ BY MARIJKE COX

but other operators on the Channel do – most of them are French ferry companies.

"We're not happy with the fact that LD Lines is using ships for the Dover routes which are designed for Newhaven, but it's the local authority that needs to stop giving out subsidies. If we can put a stop to that it will stop the unfair competition."

In February, French public spending watchdog the Cours des Comptes published a critical report on the use of public funds to support Transmanche operations.

According to the report, the financial assistance cost the French taxpayer 128 million euros between 2001 and 2007.

In response to news of the injunction, LD Lines released a statement pointing out that the watchdog's findings were made before the public service subsidies were allocated to them.

A spokesperson also denied that any public money in France had been used to set up the new Dover routes.

"The state aid, granted by the

Department of the Seine Maritime region to operate a cross-Channel route from Dieppe, was notified by the respective authority in Europe as well as in France, in accordance with the law.

"All concerned authorities agreed to this delegated public service.

"It is precisely because of the importance of this funding in order to operate this route, that the Conseil General Seine Maritime looked for a private operator, so that they could limit public investments.

"The delegated public service started in March 2007 with LD Lines, with a plan to save many millions of Euros over the next eight years.

"Considering the very tough economic and competitive climate of the market, LD Lines would prefer to focus its energies and



LEVEL PLAYING FIELD? Christophe Santoni, director general of LD Lines, which P&O claims has received money from French authorities to keep services running

resources on developing cross-Channel trade and business for the company's new and existing customers, rather than become involved in futile debates, prejudicial as well as unwarranted."



BUYOUT: Brittany Ferries wants to buy out SeaFrance and says it will continue running Dover-Calais services

Company's plans to keep stricken SeaFrance afloat

BRITTANY Ferries has confirmed that it intends to take over cash-strapped SeaFrance.

If the bid is successful, the company – which already operates routes to France from Portsmouth, Poole and Plymouth – will acquire four or five of SeaFrance's vessels and continue services between Dover-Calais.

The decision by Brittany Ferries follows a meeting of its board of directors last week – and despite initially stating that no offer had been made.

David Longden, managing director of the French operator, said: "After 37 years of experience on the longer routes to France and Spain, this is an exciting opportunity to introduce Brittany Ferries' award-winning standards on Dover-Calais crossings.

"We can provide an even greater choice for our passengers and freight customers."

Hundreds of jobs at stricken SeaFrance could be saved if stakeholder SNCF agrees to the buyout.

Some 650 jobs are at risk following an announcement last month that the company was in financial difficulties.

A SeaFrance spokesman said "We can con-

firm its stakeholder, the SNCF, has received a partial takeover offer from Brittany Ferries, and that LD Lines has withdrawn its interest.

"The Brittany Ferries offer is being considered by the SNCF, who will decide the next steps for the company in due course."

If plans go ahead, Brittany Ferries could become the majority stakeholder with 75 per cent of the company.

The announcement comes just after the newest ferry firm to arrive in Dover, LD Lines, dropped its bid for SeaFrance.

Louis Dreyfus Armateurs, parent company of the operator, had put in an offer following several months of discussions over the acquisition of the majority stake.

Plans were to create a 'large SeaFrance' combining the existing ferry services with LD Lines, with the head-office in Calais.

But the French shipping giant has since withdrawn its bid.

An LD Lines spokesman said: "The uncertainty as to the real intentions of the seller has prompted LD Lines to withdraw its offer. The short time-frame necessary to complete such a transaction is no longer achievable."

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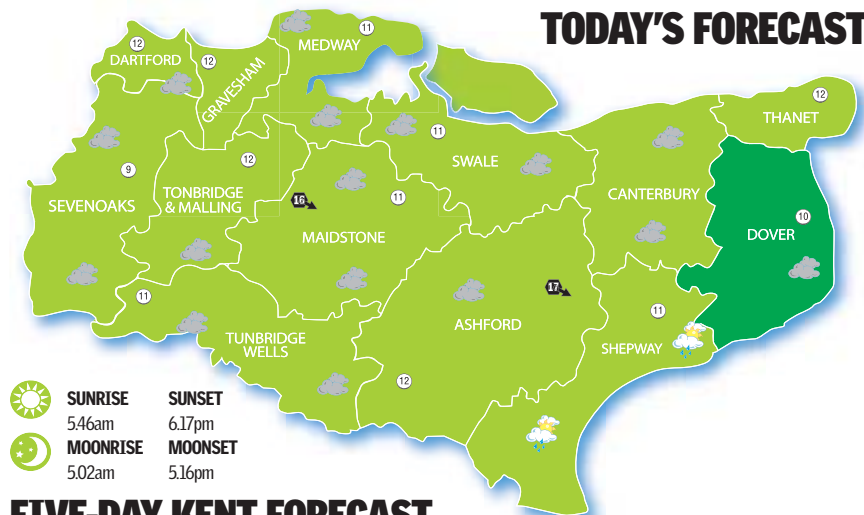
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5.46am

SUNSET
6.17pm

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5.02am

MOONSET
5.16pm

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	11°C	12°C	11°C	10°C	9°C	Gravesend	11°C	12°C	12°C	10°C	9°C
Canterbury	10°C	12°C	11°C	10°C	8°C	Maidstone	11°C	12°C	11°C	10°C	8°C
Chatham	9°C	11°C	11°C	9°C	8°C	Ramsgate	10°C	12°C	11°C	10°C	8°C
Dartford	11°C	12°C	12°C	10°C	9°C	Rochester	9°C	11°C	11°C	9°C	8°C
Dover	9°C	10°C	10°C	9°C	8°C	Sevenoaks	9°C	9°C	10°C	8°C	7°C
Faversham	9°C	11°C	11°C	9°C	8°C	Sittingbourne	9°C	11°C	11°C	9°C	8°C
Folkestone	9°C	10°C	10°C	9°C	8°C	Tonbridge	11°C	11°C	12°C	10°C	8°C
Gillingham	9°C	11°C	11°C	9°C	8°C	Tun Wells	11°C	11°C	12°C	10°C	8°C



WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	1:51pm	6.1m
	Sunday	3:26pm	6.1m
Dover	Saturday	11:51am	6.6m
	Sunday	1:27pm	6.6m
Dungeness	Saturday	12:01pm	7.8m
	Sunday	1:36pm	7.8m
Ramsgate	Saturday	12:21pm	5.0m
	Sunday	1:57pm	5.0m
Sheerness	Saturday	1:41pm	5.8m
	Sunday	3:16pm	5.8m
Whitstable	Saturday	1:43pm	5.2m
	Sunday	3:15pm	5.2m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	8°C	Madrid	19°C
Athens	12°C	New York	10°C
Barcelona	17°C	Paris	13°C
Beijing	9°C	Rome	14°C
Bombay	37°C	Sydney	27°C
Cape Town	25°C	Tenerife	19°C
Cardiff	9°C	Tokyo	15°C
Gibraltar	16°C	Vancouver	8°C
Hong Kong	28°C	Warsaw	6°C
Las Palmas	21°C	Wellington	13°C

Ex-council leader wants to sue MP then be MEP

A FORMER leader of Dover council, Tony Sansum, has joined a new political party and plans to stand for election as an MEP.

He announcement comes just a month after he revealed he wants to sue Dover and Deal MP Gwyn Prosser.

Ex-miner and self-employed engineer Mr Sansum, 56, was district council leader in the mid-90s.

He claims that Mr Prosser had ignored his long-running dispute with the Child Support Agency (CSA).

He said: "I believe he realised that my case would bring him into conflict with his government."

Mr Prosser denies the allegation and is "astonished" by the accusation.

He says he still holds the case file which includes his representations to ministers, the Secretary of State and the chief executive of the CSA.

Confidential

He said: "If Mr Sansum releases me from my duty of confidentiality I will gladly publish the file in full."

Instead, Mr Sansum has signed up to be a potential MEP on the Jury Team – a political movement set up this month to allow independent people to stand for election to Westminster or Europe.

He said: "Jury Team aims to allow people, selected openly by their fellow citizens, to become independent MPs or MEPs."

Jury Team is organising candidate selection – of which Mr Sansum is one – before an election takes place.

Mr Prosser said: "He claims to have defected from the Labour Party to seek selection as a Jury candidate, but the truth is he hasn't been a member of the Labour Party for ten years."

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QUESTION & ANSWER

CLAIRE LAWSON



Q How did you get into radio?

A I did a little bit of news-reading on my university radio station, so when I heard an advert on a local radio station in Newcastle for traffic and travel presenters I sent in my tape. After several live on-air auditions I got the job. That's where it all started.

Q When is your show on and how long have you been doing it?

A I'm the voice of weekend breakfast on Invicta FM. I started in January after taking time off to have my baby girl Gracie. She is now nine months old and it is so good to be back on the radio. You can hear me on Saturday and Sunday mornings between 8am and midday.

Q What advice would you offer to anyone who wants to get into DJ-ing?

A If you want to do something you have to push yourself. Don't wait for an opportunity to fall at your feet. Chase your dream and don't stop until you are there. Prepare yourself for many a knock-back along the way. If you are determined enough you will get where you want to be in the end.

Q What is the best thing about presenting a radio show?

A I love the fact that it is so intimate. I'm sat here in the cosy little studio, playing tons of great songs. I get to chat about all the things I

love to chat about – whether it be gossip on a celebrity or a great film. It's great to chat to all our lovely listeners as well on the phone.

Q What is the worst?

A Having to get up early on a weekend! But it's worth it!

Q How much planning goes into an average show?

A I'm always planning. In taxis, restaurants or out and about at the shops. If you see me stop and grab a piece of paper and pen, you know why. I'm constantly jotting things down that I think would be great to talk about on the radio.

Q Do you look to emulate another DJ's particular style – perhaps one you enjoyed listening to when you were younger?

A Not at all. I just want to be me. I enjoy listening to other presenters, but if I wanted to sound like them I wouldn't be happy with myself. My main aim is to be the person you chat to down the pub... but on the radio.

Q What are your hobbies and interests?

A I am desperate to get back on the golf course. I had lessons before I had Gracie and haven't got around to playing since. I love skiing, too. I learned to ski with the Army in Scotland, which was fantastic. They say if you

can ski well in Scotland you can ski anywhere. I just wish we had some mountains in Kent.

Eating out is probably my favourite thing in the world. Most weekends you will either find me in Zizzis in Maidstone or the White Horse or the Oak on the Green in Bearsted.

Q Where in Kent do you live and how long have you lived there?

A I have lived on Bearsted Green for more than two years and I love it. It is a great community with some fantastic pubs right on your doorstep. I never, ever want to move.

Q How much influence do you have on the music played on your show?

A A lot, actually. A lot of research is carried out to find out what people want to listen to. I think our play-list is great. So much variety with little sprinklings of old and new. People often ask if I listen to Invicta when I'm not on air. Of course I do!

Q What are your personal music tastes – who are your favourite acts?

A I have an incredibly varied taste in music. I really do love everything. One minute I could be bopping away to something from Dirty Dancing, then the next minute I could be singing along to a Coldplay track.

My favourite song of all time is Starship's Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now from the film Mannequin.

Q & A

We talk to Invicta FM breakfast DJ **Claire Lawson** about where it all began, why the early mornings are worth it and why she wishes Kent had a few more mountains. Also there's a growing love of golf...

Eastern and Coastal Kent Health and Social Care
Joint Approach to Urgent Care



Eastern and Coastal Kent

Trialling extended hours for Blood Test services at the Folkestone NHS Walk-in Centre

The NHS in Eastern and Coastal Kent is pleased to announce a temporary extension of availability and opening hours of blood test services at Folkestone NHS Walk-in-Centre, part of the Royal Victoria Hospital in Radnor Park Avenue.

The extended blood test service will be open for 3 extra hours in the weekday evenings and Saturday morning to test the demand and impact of providing extended Phlebotomy Department opening hours.

The temporary service is available 6 days a week until **Saturday 14th March 2009**

The opening hours during this trial period are:
Monday to Friday 8.30am – 7.00pm / Saturday 9.00am - Midday

A blood test, during the extended service, will be available as part of your treatment when visiting the Walk-in Centre or by a referral from your Doctor.

It is hoped that this temporary extension will give patients improved access when attending the Walk-in Centre. After the 24 week trial period the number of people using the extended service will be assessed to see if this service should be available for longer hours in the long term.

For further information contact:
communications@eastcoastkent.nhs.uk

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A guide to the music on offer at Faversham Hop Festival. Search 'festival'.

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

yourkenttv.co.uk

Recycling projects given helping hand

Countywide green schemes given share of £70,000

ELEVEN community projects have been awarded a total of £70,000 to go towards developing eco-friendly schemes.

The Kent Waste Partnership, which includes representatives from Kent County Council and the 12 district and borough councils in Kent, awarded the funding on Thursday from its Community Waste Action Fund. Each of the projects will use the money to fund initiatives designed to encourage recycling in their communities.

■ **BY ANNA WHITE**

The West Kent Extra and West Kent YMCA group was awarded the largest amount of £25,000, which will go towards purchasing two new vehicles to expand the group's existing recycling furniture scheme.

Landfill

The smallest amount of £100 was presented to Milstead parish council, near Sittingbourne, to purchase compost bins for local residents. Minster Community Centre on

Sheppey, will get £8,000; Eythorne parish council, in Dover, £6,000; and Pepenbury, a residential home for adults with learning difficulties in Tunbridge Wells, will receive £7,000, all to go towards supporting higher recycling rates and cutting food waste.

Pepenbury fundraiser Nigel Hill said: "We live in the countryside and the last thing we want to see being built is a landfill, so we are going to recycle everything on site and hold events to get the community involved and hopefully encourage them to recycle everything they can as well."

Others Kent schemes to be awarded funding include the Greenhithe Community Market Garden, with £7,642; the First Faversham Scout Group, £2,000; Faversham Assistance Centre, £5,000; Resopon in Thamestead, £3,700; Skillnet, £2,600; and the Beat Project. £1,376.

Initiatives

The 11 projects were presented with cheques for the funding at County Hall in Maidstone on Thursday morning, by Kent County Council's lead member for environment Charles Hibberd and Sevenoaks district council's cabinet

member for the cleaner greener environment Avril Hunter.

Cllr Hunter, who attended on behalf of the district and borough councils throughout Kent, said: "These projects know their communities and know what their community needs and they are setting a fantastic example to others."

"I have been so impressed by the quality of the initiatives the projects have come up with."

Cllr Hibberd added: "Each of the projects is run by volunteers and they should be applauded as are helping to preserve the future of our county."



CHEQUE IT OUT: Members of the 11 projects receiving their money last week

Picture ANNA WHITE

Industry left soured by our work-shy young

DAIRY farmers say the industry in Kent is dwindling because young people are not prepared to get their hands dirty.

The number of farms producing milk, butter and cheese in the UK has fallen dramatically over the past 20 years and there are concerns the trend will never be reversed due to a lack of interest in entering the profession.

Falling milk prices coupled with rising production costs have made it a difficult time to be a dairy farmer, although some in Kent say the industry still has a bright future as long as there are people willing to work in it.

Romney Marsh farmer Steve Furnival said:

■ **BY STEVE KNIGHT**

"There are guys who are retiring all the time, but the problem is the younger generation are not interested in the commitment of the job. They don't want to get up early and work hard all day."

Breeding

"I think there are about 35 or 40 farms left in Kent, but that's about half the number it was 20 years ago. The ones that are left tend to expand or become more efficient through better feeding or breeding techniques."

According to figures released this week by the Conservative Party, almost 15,000 farmers have quit the dairy industry since 1997 – the equivalent of 26 a week.

South East MEP Richard Ashworth, who lives in Folkestone, was a dairy farmer between 1970 and 2001.

He said: "The dairy industry does have a future in Kent and across the country because the demand for dairy products will always be high."

"There will be ups and downs so there needs to be top-class production standards, and if there are then I think the future will be bright."

Cathedral celebration will honour a joining of forces

THE Lord Lieutenant's Civic Service will take place at Rochester Cathedral tomorrow.

It is being held in the morning with a lunch reception to follow.

Allan Willett, the current holder of the post, has adopted a theme for the year called Mosaic of Communities in Kent.

This will celebrate cohesion among people and organisations across the county.

The service will be attended by civic dignitaries, councillors, magistrates and members of the emergency services.

A selection of people from the voluntary sector, as well as education and healthcare groups, have also been invited.



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Top TV chef backs our campaign

■ BY CHRIS BRITCHER

CELEBRITY chef Richard Phillips has thrown his weight behind the KOS Media 2009 campaign.

The star of such cooking shows as Ready Steady Cook, Step Up To The Plate and Too Many Cooks has endorsed our campaign to encourage readers to insist on locally produced food and drink.

Mr Phillips, 37, who lives near Leeds Castle and runs restaurants in Tenterden, Aylesford and Tunbridge Wells, says buying locally – and from our website www.foodforkent.co.uk – delivers not only great taste and great value, but plays a crucial role in boosting the local economy.

He said: "There is no-one who flies the flag for Kent more than me. I always source as much as I can locally and use local people as much as I can. We've filming two new TV series and I'm trying to get my local suppliers involved in that too, which will create opportunities, and jobs too, I hope."

"If we can put money in local producers' pockets, they will invest in their farms. And if their farms get bigger and better, they produce a better product. I wish all the producers success. Onwards and upwards."

Mr Phillips is no stranger to Kent, having been born and bred in the Medway towns. At 16 he moved to Broadstairs, where he attended catering college.

Moving to London while still a teenager, he trained under the Roux brothers, becoming the youngest commis chef at Le Gavroche. He then became Marco Pierre White's head chef for six years, in the process opening seven of his restaurants.

In 2001 he decided to branch out on his own and heralded his return to Kent with the opening of Thackeray's in Tunbridge Wells – an eatery whose reputation for fine-dining has spread across the county. Since then The Hengist in Aylesford has been added to his roster and, most recently, his latest venture – and the first to take his name – Richard



FINE DINING: Richard has three restaurants in Kent and knows first-hand the quality of this county's produce

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KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper, has teamed up with a host of local suppliers – to deliver the best quality food and drink.

Locally sourced in Kent, wherever possible, the site offers a one-stop shop for the best meat, fish, drink, vegetables bread and fruit the Garden of England can offer.

Simply browse our huge range of fresh products at your leisure and then select a delivery time. Before you know it, a box packed full of nutritious, fresh, aromatic, great tasting and great value produce will be at your door.

In fact, you'll find overall, taken like-for-like, our prices are so competitive, you'll often find you SAVE on buying the equivalent items in the supermarket.



And you'll know that every penny you spend is directly supporting local suppliers and producers – supporting jobs and communities, as well as the rural heritage on which our county is built.

• So join the growing number of shoppers buying their weekly food and drink by logging-on today to www.foodforkent.co.uk.

Phillips at Chapel Down, Tenterden.

He is also thoroughly committed to sourcing local produce for all his restaurants.

He said: "Local producers have raised their game. Years ago, supermarkets would swallow them up, but then spit them out, too. I

VIEW THIS CLIP ON

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your LOCAL TV ONLINE



See Richard Phillips in conversation at www.yourkenttv.co.uk. Search 'Richard'

think local producers decided enough was enough and have been more creative and looked for other places to sell their produce. As a result, the quality has rocketed."

He says during the winter months his menu will be 25-40 per cent Kent produce, reaching anything up to 75 per cent during the peak summer months.

As part of KOS Media's Buy Local Produce campaign, we have launched the website www.foodforkent.co.uk, teaming up with local producers of fruit, vegetables, meat, fish and drink to provide a one-stop shop for all your family's shopping needs.

Mr Phillips said: "If you buy local, you're buying in-season food – and if you buy in-season it's going to be cheaper. It will be in abundance, it's a better quality and it doesn't take as much work to get it to the perfect stage. The key thing is flavour – it hasn't taken a lot of time getting to your table."

"And I can buy it cheaper, which means I can roll that over to the customer. So better quality, better flavour and right behind that is better value for money."

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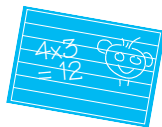
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BREAK TIME



Going to great heights to clean up White Cliffs

STUDENTS from South Kent College have been helping out with conservation work on the Western Heights in Dover.

Every Thursday, a team from the college (pictured) head to the cliffs with leader Liz Fagg to help with a clean-up programme alongside an officer from the White Cliffs Countryside Project.

The scheme is part of the Horizons course which aims to help students with moderate learning difficulties build on their social skills and team work as well as contributing to the local environment.

The course involves Maths and English and a choice of vocational subjects alongside the practical conservation element.

Museum top of the class when it comes to educating youngsters

■ BY MARIJKE COX

DOVER Museum has been commended for its work in providing quality educational visits for schoolchildren.

It has become one of the first organisations in Kent to be awarded the new Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge, which recognises centres for their work in supplying quality educational services for schools.

The scheme is part of the Government's £4.5 million Out and About package, which, in addition to the badges, provides information to teachers on how to plan and organise activities that enhance teaching.

The badge was designed to make it simple for schools to find providers of educational visits, with Dover Museum – which welcomed more than 11,000 pupils through its doors last year – now top of the list in Kent.

It was developed by the Department for



QUALITY: Dover Museum has won an award for the high standard of educational services it provides

Children, Schools and Families and awarded by the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom.

Ed Balls, Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families, said: "Educational visits are amongst the most memorable experiences in a child's school life."

"I want to see school's taking advantage of the opportunities that learning outside the

classroom provides to bring subjects to life."

Cllr Sue Nicholas, Dover District Council cabinet member, is often involved with events at Dover Museum.

She said: "This is fantastic news for the museum and we are delighted to see this national recognition of the quality educational services provided."

"This is a real credit to all staff involved. Dover Museum is proud to have welcomed over 11,000 pupils from all over the South East and abroad last year."

"Pupils visiting the museum can take part in a wide range of workshops linked to the National Curriculum and families are also catered for at the museum with a range of family days which take place every month."

Activities throughout school holidays and weekends are also held with an Archaeological Finds Day and Hands on History event taking place just last weekend.

Entry to the museum is free for Dover residents.

• For more information about further events or the museum, visit www.doverdc.co.uk/museum.aspx or call 01304 201066.

SEND your schools news and pictures to the editor at dave.mairs@kosmedia.co.uk. You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk



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yourmidweekblogger

As the world slips in to recession, is it right that council workers are demanding higher wages?



Pay increase demands are in excess of the real world

SO, as the rest of the world goes into financial meltdown, those 'hard-working' staff at Kent County Council believe they deserve a bigger pay rise than they're being offered. Unbelievable.

And they say if they don't get one, there'll be a work to rule. Work to rule? I'm not sure we'll notice, but just get on with it and accept the one per cent pay rise that we're paying.

Now I don't care if it's 'only' 8,000 union members among the 44,000 people who earn their living off the back of the council – it's our county's biggest employer by a long chalk.

Your pay demands are shocking and an insult to the real hard-working people of this county. Let's get a few things cleared up.

Firstly it is us, the grafters in the private sector, who pay your wages in the main. Do not get us confused with the majority of people

with whom you come into contact daily. We're the ones who are at work before you arrive at County Hall and are probably still there after you leave on time. We don't have time to trouble you, we're busy making ends meet.

Secondly, council staff may not have noticed (when did a recession ever affect the public sector?), but workers in the real world have had a bit of a tough year. If we're lucky enough to have held on to our job, the chances are we haven't had a pay rise and we're being asked to do longer hours and more work.

Thirdly, inflation is set to fall below zero and bank interest rates are at an all time low. A cost of living rise would actually mean a cut.

What does that mean to public sector workers, used to being well staffed and if they have to put in a few hours extra, they'll get it as overtime? Nothing obviously.

But if you at KCC can be bothered, consider the effect your wage demands have on the rest of the country: demanding above-inflation rises just puts more pressure on our weakened

economy and ultimately we, the real workers and producers, have to pay for it.

So, stop moaning and get on with your easy, well-paid jobs and if you can make an effort to try harder, then you might actually make things better for the rest of us.

While this blog remains anonymous, if you are a KCC employee, do not think this is written by an officer or elected member of the council, your bosses are pretty hopeless when it comes to money management.

There's still the small question of the £50 million which disappeared in Iceland and the outrageous bonuses paid to senior officers who... well, did their jobs really.

On reflection, with them in charge, it's quite possible your union demands for double the pay rise offered will be met. Trebles all round then, and pass the index-linked pension.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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LET US KNOW...

This is your community newspaper and we welcome all contributions. Tell us what you want to see more of in your newspaper and if you want to be the next blogger on this page, submit an article to us of about 500 words.

You can contact the editor **Dave Mairs**, on 01303 817022, or email or write to him at the addresses below.

And don't forget, the award winning KOS Media has websites with the latest news and video. Go to www.kentnews.co.uk and then click on your area.



EMAIL US: We want your letters, your comments and views. Send your submissions to the editor: Dave.Mairs@kosmedia.co.uk

Write to: The Editor, Dave Mairs at: KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

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Bringing back breakfast

BREAKFAST may be the most important meal of the day, but most of us still skip it and go for unhealthy choices.

That's why Warburtons, Britain's favourite family baker, is celebrating the nation's traditional breakfast favourite – boiled eggs and toasted soldiers.

Breakfast is vital for energy and concentration levels and this healthy option is an inexpensive, comforting and convenient way to kick start the day.

Warburtons' deliciously soft classic white Toastie loaf is the perfect accompaniment for the humble boiled egg.

It's ideal for toasting and even better for dunking! What's more, the large loaves are wrapped in wax paper to ensure all the freshness and taste is sealed in from the moment it's baked.

Boiled eggs and toasted soldiers are an incredibly healthy way to start the day. Bread is an important source of dietary fibre, low in sugar, fortified with calcium and it contains vitamins such as folic acid and iron.

Eggs are relatively low in saturated fat, making them a healthy choice for the whole family.

They're also a great source of choline, which



is often linked with keeping your brain in tip top condition.

To celebrate the nation's soft spot for boiled eggs and toasted soldiers, Warburtons is offering one reader the chance to win a luxury breakfast hamper including a classic Warburtons Toastie loaf, a chromed toast rack, egg cups and an assortment of breakfast essentials including English Breakfast Tea, marmalades and jams.

Your perfect breakfast hamper will also

include a selection of family board games to challenge the whole family's brain power.

To be in with a chance of winning, simply answer the following question:

White bread is a good source of which of the below?

A) Cheese B) Chocolate C) Calcium

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to

Breakfast Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, TN25 6SR. The closing date is April 7, 2009.

No purchase necessary. For full terms and conditions see www.kentnews.co.uk or call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

Visit www.warburtons.co.uk for more on the family baker's complete breakfast range, as well as delicious breakfast recipe ideas.

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TALK TIME

MANDY WILTSHER

Mandy Wiltsher works for the Eastern and Coastal NHS Stop Smoking Service based in Dover – she tells us about her role



Can you tell us a bit about what you do?

I help with the administration of the Eastern and Coastal NHS Stop Smoking Service. I deal with confidential patient information sent from advisers in GP surgeries and pharmacies and occasionally deal directly with the public, booking them on stop-smoking courses.

What is the best thing about your job?

Being able to help people to achieve their goals and to have a healthier lifestyle. I work with a great group of people.

What is the most challenging thing about working for the NHS?

Sometimes it can be quite stressful with all of the paperwork that is involved, especially in my particular role. The workload can be quite intense, but it is a very rewarding career.

Your offices are based in Dover. What is it like working in the area?

Great. I like being able to get to the shops and seeing the castle looking over the town makes it very picturesque. I also like the fact you have easy access to France via the port.

You live in Hawkinge. What is your favourite thing about living in Kent?

Living by the sea but having stunning countryside close as well. I like the fact that we have beautiful historic towns like Canterbury so close but also can get to London quickly and have a great, quick route to the O2 Arena.

YOUR LETTERS

Artists should not be given grants

I have just noted this paper's report on grants for artists.

I am against grants going to working artists. An artist, if good enough, should be able to earn their own living – their work should sell itself and they should not have to rely on grants.

I am not against it being given to schools *etc.*, or to people with disabilities.

While people are losing their homes and jobs, and wondering where their next meal is coming from or how they can afford the next pair of shoes for their children's feet, and while pensioners are trying to make ends meet on a meagre income, it is beyond belief that £70,000 is being given away to art projects.

I am registered blind and never had a grant – and would never take one – but I give all my work to charities to raise money.

If artists wish to display their paintings or photos in Dover they should pay the town for the privilege.

Dawn Parkinson
Dover

Driving the parking issue to Cabinet

Open letter to Dianne Hopper, parking services and CCTV manager, Dover District Council: Late last year the Kent Branch of the Association of British Drivers responded to your consultation on parking but



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failed to convince decision-makers of our case for reduced charges.

At that time we welcomed the two-year freeze on charges as better than the 'usual' annual increase but suggested that

more was required.

Things have since moved on, most notably with a high-profile campaign led by Andy Maple and Deal & Walmer Chamber of Trade, calling for much wider reductions in parking costs than

even we originally suggested – we were attempting to be 'realistic', bearing in mind what we thought the opinions in the council would be.

As a result of this, and the apparent effects observed within Deal on behalf of our organisation, I now wish to state for the record that we fully support and endorse all that is being campaigned for.

In an ideal world, there would be no such thing as parking charges and ample space provided for everyone, except in exceptional circumstances.

Some time restrictions would probably be a necessary evil in the case of on-street parking.

However, the appearance of a letter in the local press comparing this area to Fishguard prompts me to suggest that in the longer term Dover District Council considers a sea-change in its policy towards drivers, an end to regarding parking as a revenue stream, to be tightly controlled, restricted and enforced by an army of officials, and instead actually encourages people to come into our area for business with a policy of as much free and minimally restricted parking as possible.

Where charges are made, it should be in return for security provision, with charges no more than those at, say, the Charlton Centre, a consistently cheaper commercial operation.

As a Dover resident, I would add a personal observation. The now long-standing decline of the town centre is usually blamed on out-of-town shopping.

I'll not deny that that has had an influence, but that was itself a reaction to growing difficulties and expense of coming into town to shop.

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In Dover, the decline was in evidence long before the advent of out-of-town shops at Whitfield.

I put the start down to the late 60s when the then Dover Borough Council initiated the start of large-scale one-way traffic combined with ever-increasing restrictions on and charging for car parking.

Prior to that, Dover was known for plenty of free parking and did all right, despite its shops being nothing that special.

Please pass these opinions on to the appropriate policymakers in Cabinet.

Ian Taylor
Association of British Drivers (Kent)

Facilities have gone down the toilet

Next week the toilets at Kingsdown would normally reopen for the summer, but they will remain closed because the failure of the district council to reach agreement with the parish council on maintenance costs.

This is a vital facility for residents and visitors alike.

This is a short-sighted move at a time when we should be doing everything possible to attract visitors to enjoy our wonderful amenities.

It's not right that the parish council should be responsible for shouldering all the bill for a facility used by so many visitors. I hope that DDC can reconsider its decision and reopen these toilets.

Ben Bano
Leader, Dover District Council Labour Group

So what now after losing BNP debate?

Now Ray Duff has been argued into submission on the subject of politics, can I now be assured that Mr Duff's pontifical observations on two other subjects he knows nothing about – aviation and nuclear power – are also at an end.

Many of us enjoyed the political knockabout between Harry Williams of the British National Party and Ray Duff – there is no doubt that intellectually Mr Williams won the argument hands down, on points and by the proverbial mile.

It is right, though, to now put an end to it.

It was pleasing to see Mr Duff at last get his comeuppance as Mr Williams is not the only person to earn the wrath of Mr Duff in the local press.

Any cause, person or party with whom Mr Duff disagrees is the subject of his caustic pen.

Work ethics and the creation of employment, especially for our youngsters, are self-evidently at the bottom of Mr Duff's priorities. The dignity of being employed is clearly not important to him!

Perhaps now Mr Duff will concentrate his energies on the former and if he's interested in a job at our airport when management is finally given planning permission to create hundreds of jobs, then he can contact me.

As Mr Duff has failed to show up

to any of our public meetings, though invited, I will assume he is not even remotely interested.

Who knows? He might have learned something!

The saga of Mr Duff's opinions is hopefully at an end, but where he is concerned, one of my Dad's favourite sayings springs to mind: "a little knowledge can be dangerous".

Amen!

Michael Walsh
Friends of Lydd Airport

Editor's note: The decision to end the correspondence between Messrs Duff and Williams was taken by this newspaper – no one on either side was argued into submission.

Not a cross to bear if we work together

I am just back from visiting the Gaza Strip, where, over one month on from the end of the conflict, tens of thousands of people are still struggling to rebuild their lives.

Rebuilding Gaza will only succeed if accompanied by credible political steps to resolve the crisis.

The first and most urgent measure should be to end the isolation of Gaza, particularly the restrictions on the movement of people and goods.

In Israel, the targeting of civilian areas must also end.

Sir Nick Young
British Red Cross

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Rich Phillips

Thursday 23rd April
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A must have for every home Ewbank have been producing non-electric carpet sweepers for over a century and their products are still regarded as the best in the world.

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Evolution II has two height settings for cleaning both carpet and hard floors and an extra wide 23.5cm sweeping path with a long coated steel handle that lies flat for cleaning under furniture.

The long life natural bristle brush efficiently sweeps up crumbs and dirt left behind by children and pets and the large capacity dustpan is easy to empty. Other features include a soft furniture guard and it also automatically cleans its own brushes. The Evolution II is available in silver for £29.99 and makes a perfect companion for your vacuum cleaner.

Online Price: £29.99



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Building up the laughter

Ricky Tomlinson to share the stage with Jim Royle

LAUGHTER SHOW

Thursday, April 2, and
Friday, June 12
Orchard Theatre, Dartford, and
Woodville Halls, Gravesend



POPULAR comedian and actor Ricky Tomlinson brings his new Laughter Show to Kent this season.

A sure-fire antidote to the credit crunch, the man behind larger-than-life characters Jim Royle and Mike Bassett will be presenting an evening of big laughs. Joining him for the show, which runs for more than two hours, will be three other acts ready to cheer audiences in these recession-hit times.

Former Coronation Street and Emmerdale actor Tony Barton will be appearing, along with The Comedians star Eddie Archer and comedy rock band Black Onyx, which has performed in Rock With Laughter.

Tomlinson, 69, is one of Liverpool's best-known residents and has been a familiar figure on our television screens for nearly 30 years. But his early life was a world away from the glamour of the entertainment business, with a childhood marked by poverty. He was the son of a baker and his mother held down three jobs to help keep the family afloat.

Early on he hoped to become a professional footballer, but turned down a trial at Scunthorpe United to focus on playing the banjo in Liverpool's pubs and clubs. After getting married and moving to Wrexham, he found work in the construction industry and this would lead to his involvement with trade union politics.

In 1972 he became involved with the builders' strike, organising flying pickets and refusing to testify against his fellow strikers in court. Along with Des Warren, he was convicted of conspiracy charges and sentenced to two years in prison, but Tomlinson has always protested his innocence. He is still campaigning to clear his name and that of his fellow defendants.

During his time in prison Tomlinson developed a love of classical music and discovered socialist theory. Blacklisted by the building trade, on his release he became an entertainer and theatrical agent. His



VARIETY SHOW: As well as three support acts, Ricky Tomlinson will also be performing as popular characters Jim Royle and Mike Bassett during his Laughter Show

life changed forever in 1980 when one of his stage routines was spotted by director Alan Bleasdale, who offered Tomlinson a role in his acclaimed TV series Boys From The Blackstuff.

He went on to appear in the Jim Allen play United Kingdom and Ken Loach's film Riff Raff, though his best-known character during the 80s was trade unionist Bobby Grant in Channel 4 soap Brookside.

In 1998 he was reunited with his Brookside screen wife, Sue Johnston, to play the patriarch of The Royle Family. Written by Caroline Aherne

and Craig Cash, the BBC sitcom established Jim Royle as one of the most iconic characters in British comedy history.

He will be hosting part of the show as Jim and will also be appearing as fictitious football manager, Mike Bassett, the eponymous star of the 2001 comedy film.

To book tickets for the Orchard Theatre show, call 01322 220000 or visit www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

Tickets for the Woodville Halls date are available on 01474 337774 or from www.woodvillehalls.com. The show is not suitable for under-18s.



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JOHN LAWSON'S CIRCUS

Wednesday to Sunday, March 5-29
Victoria Park, Deal

ROLL up, roll up and experience the magic of the big top as John Lawson's Circus rolls into town.

With breathtaking stunts, graceful trapeze acts and plenty of comedy, the show offers exciting entertainment for all the family. The show won the Best Small Circus gong in last year's National Circus Awards and is now thrilling audiences around the country on its latest tour.

People will be kept on the edges of their seats by the captivating knife throwers. A daredevil trapeze act, that takes place beneath a revolving space rocket, and a BMX bike stunt rider add to the excitement.

Comic relief will be provided by one of this year's highlights, the Popolinos Musical Clowns. The only traditional white face clown left in the UK, Popol tries to bring some elegance and class to the performance, only to have his efforts upstaged by his mischievous sidekick Kakehole.

Performances start at 4.30pm and 7.30pm



on weekdays and 2pm and 5pm at the weekend. Tickets cost £7, to book call the box office on 07860 498833. For more information, visit www.johnlawsonscircus.co.uk.



Picture: N. DRACOLIS

ROBERT MITCHELL

Saturday, March 28
Quarterhouse, Folkestone

INTERNATIONALLY renowned musician Robert Mitchell will be headlining a night of jazz at Folkestone's new music venue.

As the finale to the Month of Music festival, Mitchell – one of the jazz world's most celebrated young pianists – will be appearing with his trio. His album has recently

won the prestigious Giles Peterson Jazz Album of the Year Worldwide Award, a strong confirmation of this esteemed musician's talent.

The album, *The Greater Good*, features original tracks and innovative cover versions of songs such as Massive Attack's *Teardrop*.

Critics have described Mitchell's playing as "formidable" and "astounding", so music fans should not miss this chance to see a real jazz star in action.

The event has been arranged by Orange Street Music Club in Canterbury, which aims to bring great music to Folkestone, too.

Opening the night will be Canterbury-based singer-songwriter Richard J Lewis, whose soulful melodies and powerful lyrics with a strong jazz sensibility and swing have won critical acclaim.

The concert starts at 8pm and tickets cost £10/£8, see www.monthofmusic.co.uk for more information.

THE ENEMY

Sunday, April 5
Winter Gardens, Margate

DYNAMIC young band The Enemy has been making friends ever since it hit the music scene in 2006.

The indie rock band from Coventry made a big impact with their very first single, *40 Days and 40 Nights*, a limited edition which saw just 1,000 copies released on vinyl. This success was followed by chart hits including *Had Enough*, *Away From Here*, *You're Not Alone* and *We'll Live and Die In These Towns*. Their first album debuted at the top of the charts and has since reached platinum status.

The Enemy have also been a big hit on the live circuit, with support slots for massive bands like Manic Street Preachers, Stereophonics and The Rolling Stones win-



ning them legions of new fans.

Over the last three years they have achieved astonishing success – from headlining the NME Rock 'n' Roll Riot tour to selling out five consecutive nights at London's Astoria. The band

has graced the cover of NME five times, picked up awards from NME, Q and XFM and played as far afield as Japan.

Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £17.62. To book, call 01843 292795/296111, or visit www.margatewintergardens.co.uk.

LIVE & LOCAL

Choose a selection of your work for display

ARTISTS are invited to take part in a new exhibition hosted by the Turner Contemporary Project Space in Margate.

Entrants can submit up to eight works for consideration by a panel of experienced arts professionals. Turner Contemporary Open will run from June 27 to September 6. The closing date is Friday, April 3. For conditions of entry see www.turnercontemporary.org.

Creative guild to show exhibition of works

WORK by Kentish artists can be admired at the spring exhibition by the White Cliffs Creatives' Guild.

The exhibition opens at the Charlton Arts Centre, above the Charlton Shopping Centre in High Street, Dover, on Tuesday and runs until April 25.

It will be open from 10am to 4pm, Monday to Saturday, and entry is free. For details, visit www.wccg.org.uk.

Punk band gig to cover a variety of good songs

CREATED as an antidote to boring mid-90s pop, punk band Jester is still entertaining audiences a decade later.

The five-piece band plays original material as well as covers of songs by acts they enjoy. For more details visit www.jesterpunkuk.co.uk.

Jester will be at The Archer in Sandwich Road, Whitfield, on Saturday. For more details, call 01304 825890.

There's still some time to claim a free day out

PEOPLE all over the county will be enjoying a great attraction for free on Saturday with the Kent Big Day Out.

The event is giving away more than 17,000 free tickets to some of Kent's top destinations, and there could still be time to claim your free day out, so pop into your local visitor information centre or see www.kentbigdayout.co.uk to see if any tickets are still available.

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Tuesday 14th April - 2:30pm - Tickets **£11.00**
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The legendary blues guitarist plays his classic hits.
Thursday 16th April - 7:00pm - Tickets **£26.50**

THE SOLID SILVER 60S SHOW

The Searchers, The Merseybeats, Wayne Fontana and Special Guest John Walker with the Dakotas.
Friday 17th April - 7:30pm - Tickets **£21.00 / £19.00**

THE LEVELLERS

Folk-punk band, the Levellers celebrated their 20th anniversary in 2008, are one of the UK's best live acts.
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Historic venue for a great evening meal

■ The Walnut Tree

THIS Aldington inn was built during the reign of King Richard II, who was on the throne from 1377 to 1399, and has one of the most colourful histories of any pub around.

It started life as just a timber framed hut with a thatched roof but by the 17th century ale was being brewed on the premises.

During the Napoleonic Wars the village was the stronghold of the Aldington Gang – smugglers who roamed the nearby Romney Marsh area. The ghost of one, George Ransley, is said to haunt the pub.

The atmosphere just adds to the fine dining on offer – home-cooked food, Sunday roasts and sizzling grillstones providing an unusual and extremely popular way of preparing the food.

The last Thursday of every month sees a Fish Night for Two deal – two courses for two, plus wine for £22. Details are at www.walnuttree.com.

The pub is open over the Easter weekend with Sunday roast available from noon until 8pm.

On Easter Monday a point-to-point race day brunch will be served from 10am until midday, which includes an English breakfast and a glass of bucks fizz, for £5 per person.

On the same day a full menu is available from noon until 6pm while a charity quiz night is to take place on April 19 at 8pm in aid of multiple sclerosis research and treatment.

The Walnut Tree is found on Forge Hill, Aldington, for details call 01233 720298.

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Jackie Pinkney is chef and admits she has a few stereotypical mannerisms associated with the profession: "I do swear but I have a good team behind me that pays attention to well prepared and presented dishes."

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For further information call 01227 709265.

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The Captain Digby

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Then for the main course try pan fried liver and bacon: Fresh lamb's liver and unsmoked back bacon, fried in onion gravy. Telephone: 01843 867764

Rose & Crown, Stelling Minnis

Deep fried brie wedges with a port and red currant sauce are great before a whole rack of barbecue pork ribs with salad, chips and coleslaw. For dessert: Homemade apple and pear crumble. Telephone: 01227 709265.

The Woolpack Inn

Start with baked potato soup with mature cheddar cheese. For the main course go for slow roasted shank of lamb with redcurrant and red wine plus dauphinoise potatoes. Follow it up with shortcake with strawberries and cream. Telephone: 01303 812196.

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Picture JAMES MCCAULEY

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Shoppers can get Ambre Solaire's non-streak bronzer spray for £7.82 or Dove body lotion summer for £6.85 for 400ml.

California tan airbrush gives a professional looking spray tan and is available for £19.57. See www.superdrug.com or go to your nearest store in Dover or Deal.

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GIRLS can get the latest style at New Look.

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For more information visit www.newlook.co.uk or go to your nearest store in Dover or Deal.

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STEP onto the beach with confidence in a bikini from La Senza.

Ladies can get a range of different styles and colours to suit any shape or size. A neon animal print bikini top is £12 and matching shorts £10 or briefs £8.

A polka dot gel bra bikini top is £16, a full support top £16 and matching high waist briefs £10, briefs £8 or shorts £10.

Other styles include a funky nautical set or a glamorous Cleo ring design. To see the range visit www.lasenza.co.uk.

Snap up a bargain with photo album discounts

IF you're looking for somewhere to put treasured memories, head to WH Smith.

Up to half-price is off photo albums, including self-adhesive and slip-in versions in a range of colours including burgundy, oriental, pink and mock suede.

Should you be preparing for your big day, you can also browse the store's selection of personalised wedding stationery.

Find out at www.whsmith.co.uk, or visit the branch in Dover or Deal.

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Lounge line-up made of strong Scruff this year



■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

TEA-MAKING cartoonist DJ Mr Scruff is among the star names confirmed for this year's Lounge on the Farm festival.

The criminally cult DJ, whose animated offerings are screened alongside his DJ sets, has signed up to play a six-hour slot at the Canterbury three-day's closing night.

Mr Scruff joins the likes of Dan Le Sac vs Scroobius Pip, DJ Format and The James Taylor Quartet on the first version of the LOTF bill, which will be slowly added to in the coming weeks and months.

LOTF organiser Matt Gough said this summer's offering was already looking good.

He said: "We are excited to announce the first batch of acts that will be partying on the farm with us this summer. "Already this year the line-up is shaping up to be the best we've ever had at Merton Farm.

"We're talking to some

huge acts for the cowshed this summer, but couldn't wait any longer to tell everyone about the quality of music we already have lined up for the tents this year. Roll on July.

"Highlights in our eyes are the six-hour Mr Scruff set for Sunday, the return of DJ Format, our absolutely incredible news on the return of 'Canterbury Sound' with Gong & Steve Hillage, The Invisible, Wild Beasts, Wave Pictures for the sheep-dip... Oh to hell with it, we're excited about each and every one of these acts we've confirmed, and hope that you are too."

Lounge on the Farm, now in its fourth year, will once again take place in the glorious surrounds of Merton Farm, running from Friday July 10 to Sunday July 12.

Last year's sell-out festival saw hundreds of top bands and artists perform across six stages, ranging from the Cow Shed to the Sheep Dip.

The line-up boasted the likes of Art Brut, The Coral, New York Dolls, Black Kids and Mystery Jets.

• For more information and to buy early-bird tickets visit www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk.

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Kayley performing Chasing Dreams



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- 4 The Semantics - Soho-Nympho (Gillingham)
- 5 Euston - In My Headlights (from Deal)

IN THE MIX: DJ Mr Scruff will perform a six-hour slot at the Canterbury three-day

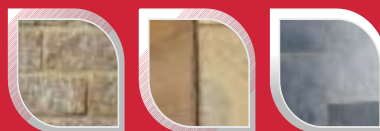
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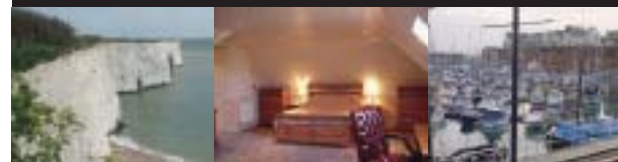
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Spy thriller starring Julia Roberts and Clive Owen as ex-government agents working for rival multinationals. But as the stakes get higher, their missions are compromised when they fall in love.

LESBIAN VAMPIRE KILLERS (15)



James Corden and Mathew Horne star as two no-hopers off to Wales for a weekend of debauchery. However, they find themselves stuck in a village where the women are under a vampire curse.

PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG)



Single dad Paul Blart is too fat to be a cop, so works as a security officer in a New Jersey mall instead. But when a gang takes over the mall, Blart gets his chance to become a real cop at last.

Owen's new best friend adds the feelgood factor

■ BY KATE WHITING

OWEN Wilson has made sure his latest movie is a real family affair.

Not only do the Texan actor's parents appear in new film *Marley & Me*, but his Australian cattle dog Garcia also makes his debut in the feelgood tale.

The film, based on the best-selling memoir by journalist John Grogan, is all about family – and dogs. It follows John and Jenny Grogan through various stages of their life, from marriage and moving to Florida, to career promotion and childbirth.

The one constant in their relationship is a labrador called Marley, who they describe as "the worst dog in the world".

He chews everything in sight, turns an obedience class into mayhem and howls like fury whenever there's a thunderstorm.

You'd think most actors would politely decline such a script, but perhaps Owen and his co-star Jennifer Aniston had never heard the old adage about never working with children or animals.

"We grew up with dogs," 40-year-old Owen explains.

"My family's first dog was a dalmatian named Nutmeg, but our main dog growing up was a chocolate-brown labrador called Blue. He could swim to the bottom of pools and retrieve golf balls, it was his special trick. He could hold his breath."

Marley ages 13 years in the film, so 22 labradors were needed to play him. None of the dogs was trained to do anything other than normal dog behaviour – and the more badly they behaved the better.

"Clyde was the main dog who played Marley and he was pretty consistent about misbehaving and doing bad stuff," says Owen, with a



DOG AND BONE: Owen Wilson on the line with one of his 22 canine co-stars in *Marley & Me*

cheeky glint in his blue eyes. He also came to the premiere in Amsterdam. They said that was Clyde, but I'm not sure ..."

Dressed in crisp blue shirt, black jacket and jeans, with neatly trimmed designer stubble, Owen looks the picture of health and happi-

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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ness as he chats easily about the film.

It's hard to believe that just over 18 months ago he was suffering from depression and recovering in hospital after an alleged suicide attempt. He withdrew from Ben Stiller's film *Tropic Thunder* and asked the media to respect his privacy. While questions about his health are off limits today, he's happy to chat endlessly about *Marley & Me*.

Owen says the film's feelgood factor is responsible for its box office success when it was released in the US last year.

"It's funny and it also has some emotion to it, and when Jen and I both read the script we responded to the story. It wasn't like an unbelievable, crazy situation. It was grounded in reality."

MARLEY & ME Certificate PG

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▶ Inkheart PG

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▶ I've Loved You So Long

(Il y a longtemps que je t'aime) 12A
Sun – 2.50pm

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YOUR TV REVIEW



NO LAUGHING MATTER: Horne and Corden fail to hit the spot with their new BBC sketch show

IT'S testing times for television.

With money on everybody's mind those who make our shows on both sides of the Atlantic will likely have to get real and make cut backs like everyone else.

Channel Four might have to stop re-fitting the Big Brother house each year and set it in a barn; the BBC may axe Eastenders (we can all dream); and ITV will probably cut back on its original drama output.

Well, at least it's not all bad news.

It's at times like this that broadcasters will likely turn to their established talents to help them navigate the crisis – the 'bankers' as it were.

So, the Beeb's current young guns, Matthew Horne and James Corden, have been dispatched into battle.

Carrying the flag of fresh new comedy with hopes in the boardrooms of Broadcasting House high, one would assume.

And the result? Well, what can I say except for, oh dear? Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear.

As sketch shows go this one seems to have drawn up a suicide pact with Carol Thatcher's presenting career.

It's woeful stuff, truly it is.

James Corden's schtick seems to revolve around "I'm fat therefore I'm funny" and if the laughs don't come at all (which happens often) it's out with

■ BY TOM BETTS



HORNE AND CORDEN
BBC Three, 10.30pm, Tuesday

the huge belly, which seems to be BBC Three's current answer to a nob/fart gag. How very ingenious...

The two stars have been heavily promoting this tosh for weeks cropping up on everything from T4 to Jonathan Ross, name-dropping to their heart's content. And they're also promoting a new film – see, I told you they were everywhere.

We haven't seen this kind of manic oversell since John Barrowman released an album of smoochy covers.

It really does look like the BBC's new darlings may not be all they're cracked up to be after all and this Kathy Burke-directed attempt at comedy is not so much the sound of the penny dropping for this pair more the sound of the entire contents of a bank vault nose-diving onto the street from a 1,000-feet above.

Perhaps it is the admittance of a rather feeble TV critic who will say that I've never actually watched Gavin and Stacey, their other apparently hilarious outing, but on this evidence, I doubt I'll ever get round to it.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

A SENSE of foreboding stops you taking risks. It's wise to be cautious. An enemy could be trying to ruin your reputation. The more honourable your behaviour, the harder is to take you down. It may be a good idea to change passwords, or sensitive information could be compromised.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

A LACK of experience could be standing between you and a plum position. Instead of getting angry, work to change the situation. It may take a long time to reach your goals, but the sacrifice will be worth it. It's possible that a bad habit has preventing you from achieving success.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

HEALTH problems could be slowing your progress. You need to treat your body like a temple. By giving your system a chance to recuperate, you'll reconnect with your spirit. All of the sudden your zest for life will be back. Wouldn't it be nice to wake up and feel enthusiastic again?

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

A NEGATIVE outlook could be poisoning your life. Yes, you've experienced some bad setbacks, but if you focus on these troubles they'll only escalate. Reflect on your blessings. Stay away from people who enjoy seeing you suffer. If your work environment is toxic, find a new job.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

GOING along with the crowd could get you into trouble. Be prepared to break away from the pack if it is engaged in questionable behaviour. Yes, you may lose some friends, but it's better than losing your self-respect. Ganging up against a weaker individual is never justified.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

IT'S time to accept that a painful situation has come to an end. You have a choice; you can either move on or stay mired in the past. Trying to revive a failed relationship will only lead to more heartache and regret. Stop hanging around people who make you feel inferior.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

A MANIPULATIVE youngster or lover could be clouding your thinking. You need to establish some ground rules with them or they'll continue to take advantage of you. If someone is pushing their luck on the romantic front, alarm bells should be ringing now. Don't let them set the pace.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

FINANCIAL difficulties could put a damper on your love life. If a relationship is going to work, the two of you need to pull together. Sniping at each other will put you both in a very bad place. Sit down and work out a plan that helps you both out of this rut.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

FLATTERY will get you everywhere, especially where authority figures are concerned. A few compliments will steer you away from trouble. There's even a chance they will ask for a date. If you've been thinking of updating your look, this would be a great week to do so.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

DON'T let another person have undue control over your life. It's time to forge a more independent future. If that means opening your own bank account, moving into a new place, or breaking ties with an abusive lover, so be it. An exciting opportunity will help you to make the changes you need.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

TROUBLE at home could be affecting your work performance. It may be a good idea to move to a more neutral ground. Signing a legal agreement will work in your favour. You'll get generous terms for your services. Be supportive of a friend's creative plans – your opinion means a lot.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

A CONTROLLING attitude will push people away. Although the prospect of letting loved ones go their own way worries you, it's essential to everybody's happiness. Resist the urge to go through somebody's belongings without their permission. Spying is a breach of trust.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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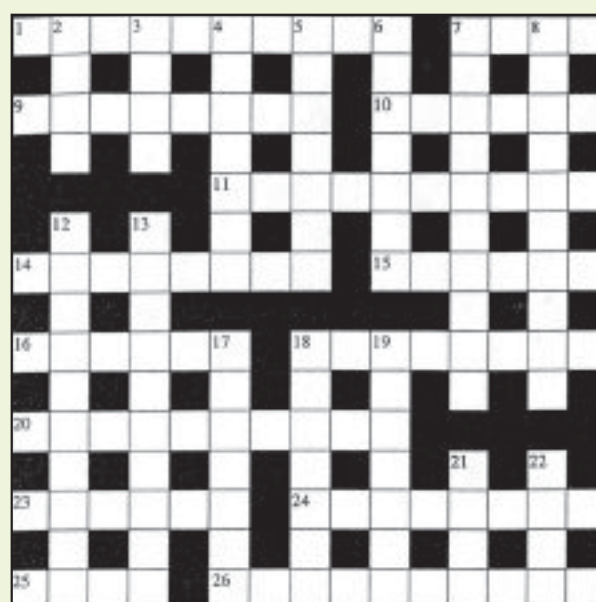
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- 1 Too much on the surface (4-3-3)
 7 Question one with Penny producing wisecrack (4)
 9 Five last another day of celebration (8)
 10 Was there not any running water during this hard time? (3,3)
 11 Shake gin on rickety vehicle (10)
 14 Hesitantly follows party worker (8)
 15 You on the 6.50 took nothing into town (6)
 16 Despite being holey it holds water (6)
 18 Yet aren't moved by the request (8)
 20 One of the family included a kiss, as a result there is less tension (10)
 23 Must have resistance inside cave (6)
 24 Saw it had been protected again, say (8)
 25 Wendy kept contents of ditch (4)
 26 A grouse Pam prepared was violently uncontrollable (10)

DOWN

- 2 After six we get up to watch (4)
 3 Pity about the book (4)
 4 One remains in suspense (7)
 5 Satellite excited starlet (7)
 6 Man in the money has shawl (7)
 7 On request I removed quizmaster (10)
 8 Be servile in regatta I organised (10)
 12 Paged reply about animal with darker spots (6-4)
 13 Joseph in struggle to engage in conflict (4,6)
 17 Una with more elusive charm (7)
 18 Witty saying, note, on farm animals (7)
 19 Nathan comes up to Indian city for figurine (7)
 21 No charge for rebel leader in charge (4)
 22 Ox Beelzebub took inside! (4)

SCRIBBLE HERE



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Disconcerting (3-7)
 7 Cloak (4)
 9 Mother-country (8)
 10 Fly (6)
 11 Cube (10)
 14 Needed (8)
 15 Cu (6)
 16 Town in NE England (6)
 18 Persevere (4,2,2)
 20 Top designs (anag.) (10)
 23 Survey (6)
 24 Stinging insect (8)
 25 River in NE England (4)
 26 Burdensome (10)

DOWN

- 2 Trickle (4)
 3 One with unpolished manners (4)
 4 Tutor (7)
 5 Linked (7)
 6 Vivid (7)
 7 Easy task (6,4)
 8 Producing disease (10)
 12 To some extent (10)
 13 Enforced isolation (10)
 17 Directory of prominent people (4,3)
 18 Tomato sauce (7)
 19 Authorise (7)
 21 Greek god (4)
 22 Eastern European (4)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No78

EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



CRYPTIC SOLUTION No78

ACROSS: 1 Frankfurter 9 Abduct 10 Braille 12 Rotorua 14 Seizure 15 Jungle juice 16 Tit 17 Now 19 Square-dance 22 Overman 23 Entrust 24 Surname 25 Craven 26 Mystery tour. DOWN: 2 Ribston 3 Neutral 4 Fit 5 Robespierre 6 Examine 7 Flaunt 8 Seventeenth 11 Trojan horse 13 Adjourment 18 Wherry 19 Summary 20 Detract 21 Nouveau 25 Car.

QUICK SOLUTION No79

Endorse 21 Zeus 22 Slave
 Quarantine 17 Who's who 18 Ketchup 19
 Play 8 Pathogenic 12 Relatively 13
 4 Teacher 5 Indexed 6 Graphic 7 Childs
 Tyne 26 Oppressive. DOWN: 2 Flow 3 Fleb
 Stipposited 23 Review 24 Horsely 25
 Copper 16 Jarrow 18 Keep at it 20
 10 Aviate 11 Hexahedron 14 Required 15

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Pompeii's magical ruins live again

BY LIZ GILL

YOU can get a guide book to Pompeii which overlays photographs of the ruins with transparencies recreating how the place looked in Roman times.

But you hardly need it when archaeologist Gillian Shepherd is your expert guide.

Listen to her amid these magical ruins and streets are once again thronged with shopkeepers and senators, fast-food sellers and soldiers, graffiti scribbles, prostitutes and errand boys, overburdened slaves and wealthy merchants borne aloft on sedan chairs.

You can almost smell the stench as she describes how fullers used to collect the ammonia needed to bleach linen by having large pots where passing men could lift their togas and make a 'donation' of urine.

And you can easily picture the worshippers in the temples, the beasts in the amphitheatre and convivial gatherings in the baths.

All the vitality of this affluent little town in the Bay of Naples was snuffed out savagely one August afternoon in 79AD when Vesuvius erupted and buried it beneath volcanic ash.

It lay hidden and largely forgotten until its rediscovery in the mid-18th century, and has slowly revealed its secrets in the years since.

The sheer scale of the site – probably a mile from end to end – makes a guide essential. You can do your own exploration with books and audio equipment, or join a day tour, but our expert was provided by tour operator Andante.

For Shepherd, a lecturer at Birmingham University, this is the perfect job.

"Archaeology," she explains, "combines languages, art, science and history. I love the tiny details, especially domestic ones, which you



RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE: The Paestum Temple of Athena, Pompeii, is among the many stunning sights on the tour

can still relate to. At the same time, though, you can never quite know the whole story. There's always something tantalising, always an element of mystery."

The town is undoubtedly the highlight of the week, with a full day devoted to it, but the tour tries to give a wider picture of the area and the era. The trip is called Pompeii, Herculaneum and Classical Campania. Andante believes its trips are best enjoyed in the company of like-minded travellers, so it's a case of small groups and an emphasis on eating and drinking together.

You don't need vast amounts of prior knowledge, only interest and enthusiasm, though I did feel rather daunted when a reading list of 30 titles arrived with my holiday details.

However, the package also includes excellent field notes, distilling key facts into a few pages. For me, the all-embracing intensity made it memorable. My fellow guests, including a marine biologist, a lawyer and business people as well as teachers and academics, were congenial. My learning curve, though steep, was hugely enjoyable. Other days featured visits to

Vesuvius, Herculaneum and Pozzuoli, which has the 40,000 seater Puteoli amphitheatre, one of the best preserved in the world.

In Naples, the spectacular National Archaeological Museum houses the beautiful statues and other artefacts collected from the sites, including extraordinary mosaics made from tesserae (tiles) so tiny that the effect is almost like a painting. Although less of Herculaneum has been excavated, some of it is better preserved.

The 500-degree heat carbonised wood and other organic materials, and at the antiquarium in nearby Boscoreale there are blackened but entirely recognisable foodstuffs such as nuts, seeds and a loaf of bread – as well as a dog and a pig. The curious counterpoint to these are the grey plastercasts in Pompeii where Giuseppe Fiorelli, one of the first proper archaeologists to go there in the 1800s, had the brainwave of pouring plaster into the spaces within the volcanic material caused by the decomposition of the bodies.

The result is a poignant reminder that this was, above all, a human disaster.

FACT FILE: ITALY

Time difference	UK+ 1hr
Capital	Rome
Climate	Mediterranean
Population	59.9 million
Currency	Euro (0.92 to £1)
Religion	Roman Catholic
Language	Italian

Travel details

Liz Gill was a guest of Andante Travels, which offers eight-day escorted tours to Pompeii, Herculaneum and Classical Campania for £1,375, from March until mid-October, including BA return flights into Naples, all meals (with wine and water) and entry to sites and tips, local travel, guide lecturer and tour manager.

Andante offers 2009 packages without flights, from £1,220.

Andante reservations: 0172 271 3800 and www.andantetravels.co.uk.



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Award Winning Company



PROPERTY NEWS

Mann Countrywide on agency award shortlist

MANN Countrywide is celebrating being shortlisted as a finalist for a national estate agency competition.

The winner of each region and the national categories of the Estate Agent and Letting Agent Awards are decided by customers – buyers and sellers who have used Mann Countrywide services.

The Maidstone-based estate agent has been listed as one of the best in the South East and is in the running for the regional and national awards.

The awards will be presented by Phil Spencer, from Channel 4's Location, Location show, at the Marriott Hotel in London's Mayfair, on April 8.

Mr Spencer said: "This is the sixth year of the Estate Agent and Letting Agent Awards and I've enjoyed being part of the celebrations on each occasion."

"It's fantastic to see agents getting the credit they deserve after all the negative press they receive."

"Throughout the property industry there is a constant need to improve customer service and these awards go along way to help agents focus on keeping clients happy."

"After all, the most powerful marketing tool for agents is word of mouth, so customer satisfaction is key."

Sir Richard banking on Virgin Group licence

SIR Richard Branson is looking to obtain a licence for his Virgin Group to become a High Street bank and return to the mortgage market.

The billionaire entrepreneur said: "We are going to get back into the mortgage business and will become a bank either by acquisition or by getting our own banking licence. You will see us become a consumer bank within the next few years."

Virgin, which was unsuccessful in acquiring crisis-torn Northern Rock, sold its Virgin mortgage product, Virgin One, to Royal Bank of Scotland more than five years ago.

Sir Richard wants to take advantage of the lack of confidence in existing banks, to give Virgin the chance to quickly gain a share of the market.

Top tips for clearing out your clutter this spring

CLEARING the clutter from your home can give it a new lease of life for the start of spring.

Top interior designer Ceri Rocca has revealed her top tips for tackling storage issues as the days grow longer.

She said: "It's time to start thinking about that annual spring-clean, whether you're opting for a full-blown makeover, a quick lick of paint or simply just a vigorous cleaning exercise to get your house looking spick and span."

"With March 31 seen as the best day for spring-cleaning, you can make some small but significant changes to your home and lifestyle, so long as you're willing to put aside a day for some serious effort and elbow grease."

Ms Rocca said most people are hoarders and storage space is at a premium for nearly everyone. But, more often than not, people aren't maximising the potential space that goes unnoticed in the home.

She said: "As your home will be much more comfortable and run far more efficiently if things are put away, why not try some of the following ideas to help?"

These are her tips for a thorough spring clean:

- Store toys in plastic colour-coded stackable boxes with lids to differentiate the types of toys inside; or you may decide to give each child their own personal box they're responsible for to encourage them to tidy up after themselves.
- By covering open shelves with roller blinds, using a fold-up screen or ceiling-hung fabric panels as room dividers, you'll be able to hide some of that clutter and achieve more space.
- Drawer dividers are a great way

BY NICK AMES

of organising small items such as fashion accessories or cutlery; try Lakeland for quality space-saving products.

- Out-of-season clothes can be stored in empty suitcases or bags that are designed to fit snugly under a bed, unnoticed – your wardrobe (and partner) will thank you for it.
- To fit more into your wardrobe, plan storage that reaches all the way to the ceiling. Stow suitcases and rarely used items on harder-to-reach upper shelves. Add hooks to the door for belts, ties and jewellery.

- If you've kept your shoe boxes, you can take a photo of each pair of shoes and stack the boxes neatly in your wardrobe with the image facing outwards so you know immediately which shoes are in which box.
- Shelving is key and inexpensive – place above doorways and in alcoves.

Use small wicker baskets for the little mementoes you can't bring yourself to throw away, and simply store on the shelves.

- Use rows of hooks on walls in the hallway, kitchen and bedrooms for coats, clothes, utensils and pots and pans where possible.
- Look for furniture that serves more than one purpose, such as coffee tables with built-in drawers, side tables that also function as display cases, armoires that can be used for unsightly computer equipment, and sofas that pull-out as guest beds.



DESIGN FOR LIFE: Ceri Rocca says that spring is the time to clear out the clutter

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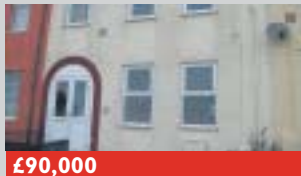
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Three bedroom terrace house with two reception areas, double glazing, gas heating, rear garden.

DEAL



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3 bed semi detached house, double glazing, conservatory, gas central heating, off road parking, garden.

DOVER



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3 bedroom Grade II listed house with character features. Two receptions, cellar and rear garden. No chain.

RIVER



£160,000

Three bedroom semi detached chalet bungalow with two reception rooms, garage and garden. No chain.

WHITFIELD



£184,995

Three bedroom semi bungalow offered with no chain. Double glazing, gas central heating, garage, gardens.

SHEPHERDSWELL



£199,995

3 bedroom house with two reception rooms, double glazing, central heating, garden and off road parking.

SHEPHERDSWELL



£229,995

Three bedroom detached bungalow in village location with conservatory, two garages. No chain.

RIVER



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first floor studio apartment comprises: entrance hall, bathroom/WC and studio room with kitchenette.

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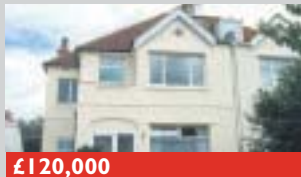
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Two bedroom maisonette complete with roof garden, central heating, double glazing, kitchen and no chain.

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1st & 2nd floor maisonette comprising: entrance hall, kitchen, bathroom/WC, lounge, dining room and 2 bedrooms.

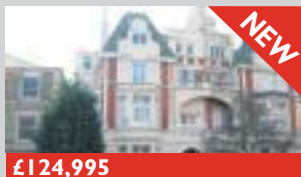
FOLKESTONE



£124,995

This mid terrace house, entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom/WC.

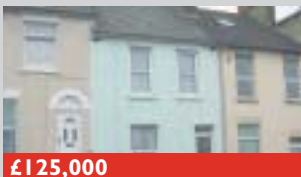
FOLKESTONE



£124,995

Two bedroom top floor apartment in the West End of Folkestone is offered for sale with no chain.

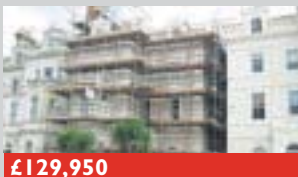
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£125,000

Sought after East Cliff cul-de-sac location. Excellent decorative order. First time to the market in 90 years!

FOLKESTONE



£129,950

This garden flat comprises: entrance hall, lounge/diner, kitchen, utility room, two bedrooms and bathroom/WC.

FOLKESTONE



£132,995

A ground floor flat comprising: private entrance door, lounge, two bedrooms, bathroom, separate WC, kitchen.

FOLKESTONE



£145,000

3 storey mid terrace house comprising: entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, 2 bathrooms/WC's.

FOLKESTONE



£147,500

This end of terrace house situated in a cul-de-sac comprises: entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, utility/drying area, 3 beds, shower room.

FOLKESTONE



£149,995

Four storey masonette, entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, utility/drying area, 3 beds, shower room.

FOLKESTONE



£189,995

The property has been much improved including: fitted kitchen, modern bathroom, garage/utility and gardens.

FOLKESTONE



£248,000

This bungalow Comprising: entrance porch, entrance hall, lounge, dining room kitchen, 2 beds, bathroom/WC.

FOLKESTONE



OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £270,000

Penthouse apartment. Entrance hall, kitchen/breakfast room, four bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, boiler room.



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Countrywide

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EYTHORNE £155,000

Three bedroom semi-detached house. Village location. Kitchen/breakfast room. Sitting room. Conservatory. Gas central heating. Double glazing. Off-road parking. Gardens.

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MARTIN MILL £129,950

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CHURCHILL ROAD £185,000

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FARTHINGLOE ROAD £139,995

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FOLKESTONE ROAD OIEO £165,000

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Dover Office 01304 207099

LONGFIELD ROAD £125,000

Maxton location. Spacious three bedroom terraced house. 24' through lounge/diner. Refitted kitchen. Bathroom. Double glazing. Gas central heating. Garden.

Dover Office 01304 207099

SHEPHERDSWELL £199,950

Semi-detached home. Three bedrooms. Kitchen/breakfast room. Dining room. Sitting room. Bathroom. Front/rear garden. Double garage. No chain.

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FOLKESTONE £54,950

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FOLKESTONE OIEO £149,995

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HAWKINGE OIEO £179,995

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FOLKESTONE £329,995

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PUBLIC NOTICE


PROPERTY ADDRESS: 90 CANTERBURY ROAD, HAWKINGE, FOLKESTONE, KENT CT18 7BN

We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £185,000 on the above property. Any interest parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

Folkestone Office 01303 250757

RIVER OIEO £120,000

CHAIN FREE. 3 bedroom mid-terrace cottage. Lounge, Diner, Kitchen and Bathroom on the ground floor with three bedrooms upstairs. Gas heating, double glazing and a rear garden.

Kearsney Office 01304 823714

WHITFIELD OIEO £145,000

3 Bedroom Terraced House. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Conservatory, Ground Floor Bathroom and side access. 100ft garden and central heating

Kearsney Office 01304 823714

RIVER OIEO £160,000

2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow. Porch, L-Shaped Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Family Bathroom. Gardens. Central heating, double glazing, garage and driveway.

Kearsney Office 01304 823714

WHITFIELD OIEO £160,000

NO CHAIN. 4 bedroom semi detached house. Porch, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Conservatory. First floor offers 4 bedrooms with ensuite to master and family bathroom.

Kearsney Office 01304 823714

TEMPLE EWEELL OIEO £199,995

3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow. Entrance Hall, L-Shaped Lounge/Diner, Sun room, Kitchen, Family Bathroom with separate WC. Rear plot approx. 1/3 acre backing onto woodlands.

Kearsney Office 01304 823714

ALKHAM ROAD £359,995

4 bedroom executive detached house. Porch, Entrance Hall, Downstairs Family Bathroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Study and Two Double Bedrooms. KR090046

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ST. MARYS BAY £175,000 FREEHOLD

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ST. MARYS BAY £239,995 FREEHOLD

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BRENZETT £229,995 FREEHOLD

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DEAL

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- 1 Bed • EOT Starter House
- GCH • Allocated Parking • Garden

SALES

FOLKESTONE

£185,000



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- Family Home • Three Bedrooms
- Separate Lounge & Dining Room

FOLKESTONE

£165,000



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- Linked Semi Detached Home • 3 Beds • Garage & Off Street Parking

DOVER

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- Converted Flat • Over Two Floors
- 2 Beds • D/Glazed

DEAL

£159,995



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- 3 Beds • Town Hse • Further Family Rm/4th Bed • Kitch/Dining Rm

FOLKESTONE

£219,950



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- New Build • Solar Panel Water Systems • 3 Beds • Master Ensuite

FOLKESTONE

£124,995

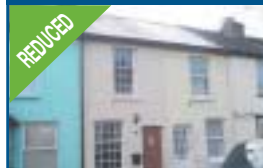


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- Terrace Family Home • 3 Bedrooms • Two Receptions • Kitchen

DOVER

£95,000



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- 2 Bed Cottage • Rear Garden
- GCH • Some Period Features

WALMER

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- 2 Beds • Top Floor Flat • Sea Views • Lounge / Dining Room

HAWKINGE

£230,000



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- Detached Family Home • Three Beds • Downstairs Cloakroom W/C

DYMCHURCH

£155,000



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EYTHORNE

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- Semi-Det House • 3 Beds • Stamp Duty Exempt • Living Room

SANDWICH

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- Terrace House • Two Double Beds • Part Double Glazed As Stated

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- Semi Detached Bungalow • Two Bedrooms • Rear Facing Lounge

DOVER

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*Source: *Hometrack Mar 09.
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LETTINGS

BOUVIERIE ROAD WEST £500PCM



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- 2 bed flat • Newly decorated • Gas central heating • Close to town centre

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- 2 bed 1st floor flat • Bay fitted kitchen • Own garden available now

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FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02712**

- One bedroom upper ground flat
- Access to town and station
- No forward chain



DOVER **£125,000**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02923**

- 2 bedroom apartment
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- No chain



DOVER **£114,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02892**

- 3 bedroom house
- 2 reception rooms
- Quirky features



DOVER **£74,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02916**

- 2 bedroom apartment
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GUSTON **£134,500**

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- Charming 1 bed cottage
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- Rear garden



DOVER **£139,995**

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- Two bedrooms
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- Close to train station
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- No onward chain



FOLKESTONE **£157,500**

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- Three bedroom house
- Two receptions
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DOVER **£159,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02875**

- Large victorian
- Three bedrooms
- Balcony frontage



FOLKESTONE **£159,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02930**

- Three bedroom semi
- Conservatory
- Garage & driveway



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FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02739**

- Large ground floor apartment
- Two bedrooms, one en-suite
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EYTHORNE **£172,500**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02878**

- 3 bed semi
- Cul de sac position
- Large conservatory



HYTHE **£174,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP02592**

- Garden flat on hythe seafront
- Modernised throughout
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FOLKESTONE **£179,995**

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- 4 bedroom house
- 2 reception rooms
- Gch / good condition



SHEPHERDSWELL **£199,995**

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- 3 bed modern home
- 2 reception rooms
- No forward chain



FOLKESTONE **£249,950**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE **HFP01807**

- Detached two bedroom bungalow
- Two reception rooms
- Fantastic views over the seas



FOLKESTONE **£325,000**

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- 5 x 1 bed flats and a studio flat
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- NO CHAIN !! 2 Bedrooms
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New Romney: 01797 364600**FEATURE PROPERTY****Lydd On Sea** £295,000

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- Conservation Land to Rear
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- Spacious Accommodation

New Romney: 01797 364600**Greatstone** £225,000

- 4 Bedrooms
- Large Lounge
- Views across Farmland
- Double Glazing Throughout

New Romney: 01797 364600**Greatstone** £249,995

- Large Detached Bungalow
- Good Location
- Close to Beach & Shops
- 4 Bedrooms

New Romney: 01797 364600**Dymchurch** £275,000

- Grade II Listed
- Believed to date from 1590
- 4 Bedrooms
- Semi Detached, Beams

New Romney: 01797 364600**Littlestone** £299,000

- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- 3 Further Bedrooms
- 2 Receptions
- Kitchen and Utility Room

New Romney: 01797 364600**Dover** £105,000

- CHAIN FREE !!
- An extended terraced house
- 3 bedrooms, lounge
- Spacious kitchen/diner

Dover: 01304 246111**Dover** £135,000

- CHAIN FREE !!
- Spacious 3 bed terraced house
- Lounge, Dining room
- Conservatory

Dover: 01304 246111**Dover** £139,995

- CHAIN FREE !! Great location
- 3 Bed terraced house
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen/breakfast room

Dover: 01304 246111**Dover** £139,995

- An Extended 2 double bed
- Semi-detached house
- Popular Elms Vale Location
- Lounge, Dining Room

Dover: 01304 246111**Dover** £139,995

- Spacious Family Home !!!
- 3 Bed end of terrace house
- Modern kitchen & bathroom
- Gas central heating & D.g.

Dover: 01304 246111**Whitfield** £175,000

- CHAIN FREE
- A 2 bed detached bungalow
- Lounge/diner, Conservatory
- Double glazing

Dover: 01304 246111

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DOVER Spacious 2 double bedroom 1st floor flat close to town. ... **£525 PCM**

DOVER TOWN CENTRE 2 boom recently refurbished fla ... **£400 PCM**

DOVER Various 1 bedroom flats with parking - Sorry no H/B ... **£400 PCM**

DOVER 2 Bedroom top floor flat close to town. Recently refurbished. . **£425 PCM**

DOVER Spacious 3 bedroom maisonette - Separate lounge and kitchen - GCH. **£525 PCM**

DOVER Modern 1 bedroom flat close to town with allocated parking. **£450 PCM**

DOVER 2 Bedroom top floor flat with roof terrace. Good order. . . . **£425 PCM**

CHERITON 2 Bedroom terraced house with double glazing and GCH. **£575 PCM**

NEW ROMNEY OFFICE

CAMBER 2 bed flat, electric heating, benefits considered with guarantor. **£450 PCM**

NEW ROMNEY 2 double beds, end of terrace, excellent order, no pets. **£625 PCM**

LYDD Link detached chalet house, 2/3 beds, garage, no benefits. . . **£695 PCM**

GREATSTONE Modern 4 Bed detached house, garage, pets considered. **£850 PCM**

GREATSTONE Stunning 3 Bed detached bungalow with sea views, spacious. **£900 PCM**

ALDINGTON Large 4 bed barn conversion, garden area, garage & ORP. **£1,150 PCM**

Dover: 01304 212423 New Romney: 01797 364667

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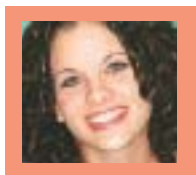


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WOMEN seeking men

WHAT'S THE SCORE?

Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Sociable girl, 28, loves pubs, social drinks, meeting new people & more, seeks similar male, 58-62, for a lasting relationship. Box 448756

BRING ME SUNSHINE

Outgoing, fun female 28, seeks outgoing, fun guy to make me laugh and share good times. Box 448211

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE

Loving lady, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471

GET A STRIKE

African single woman, 30, caring, adventurous, generous, medium build. I love cinema/TV, music, bowling, shopping, cosy nights in. Box 882789

SOUND GOOD?

Hello I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447595

ON A ROLL!

Hi, I'm Alison, 36, 5ft5, single mum, loves swimming, roller skating and meeting new people, looking for a male for friendship, maybe leading to more. Box 448865

CLOSE ENCOUNTER

Loving, caring, tactile female, 36, 5'8", blonde hair, blue eyes, n/s, GSOH, likes cinema, bowling, country pubs, nights in/out, seeks male for friendship and LTR. Box 827619

WISHLIFY YOURS

Loving female, 37, 5ft2, brown hair, slim build, looking for honest, caring male with GSOH, for friendship, leading to more. Ashford. Box 449915

LOVE TO LOVE YOU

Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large-build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

LOOKING FOR A LOVING CHAP

Ashford-based woman looking for an honest, friendly, caring and loving man. I have two kids and enjoy the usual things in life. Box 446965

BLONDE AMBITION

Bubbly, cuddly, blonde single mum, 38, 5'6", likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614

ANIMAL LOVER?

Nurse, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5ft8, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa dancing, looking for a kind, caring, loyal male Box 431557

DON'T LET ME DOWN

Pretty, black female, 38, 5ft4, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684



HAPPINESS, THE GREATEST GIFT...

Shy female, 40, 5ft9, blue eyes, short blonde hair, medium build, loves going out, wine and dining, holidays; seeking like-minded gentleman to be happy with. Box 446763

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE

Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, with a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551

THE SIMPLE THINGS...

I like reading/writing, going out, music. Seeking kind, genuine, honest chap. I'm a 40yr old woman who enjoys the simple things in life. Box 448542

YOUNG-AT-HEART

Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893

FULL STEAM AHEAD

Seeking genuine, sincere, honest guy who likes to have fun. I'm a friendly, 40yr old female, and like cats, wind surfing, railway trips, cakes. Box 449747

NO TIES

Lonely, bored, professional Tunbridge Wells Asian lady, 40, WLTm slim, single, solvent, professional white male 40-50 for company, fun, love and laughter. Box 443573

THE HOME LIFE

Happy, caring female, homely, tactile and honest. I'm black African, 41, 5ft2, medium build, and would like LTR with the right person. Box 446024

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Hello, I'm Nikki, 41yr young, 5ft1, enjoys dining out, cinema and dancing, seeking a male for friendship, possible romance and fun times. Box 444736

FAIRY TALE ENDING

Good-looking slim blonde, 42, tired of kissing frogs, seeking an intelligent, solvent professional male to be my prince. Box 446521

LIFE IS GIVING LOVE A GUARANTEE

Down-to-earth lady, 42, sincere, honest and reliable, looking for a male for friendship first, going out, enjoying evenings and perhaps something more later on. Box 449712

COSY TIMES TOGETHER

Fun-loving female, 42, looking for someone who can make me laugh and enjoys country walks, films, travelling and a nice evening cuddled up. Box 881545

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES!

Single mum, 43, kind and devoted, likes walks, cinema, beaches and socialising, drinks and films, seeks similar man for lasting love. Box 449586

THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156

GOOD TIME GIRL

Outgoing young lady, 43, blonde hair blue eyes, 5ft4, works hard, loves socialising, partying, meeting new people...looking for similar male to enjoy happy times with. Box 449157

AIMING HIGH

Fit blonde aerobics instructor, female, 43, seeking decent, tall, fit male for companionship, hopefully leading to a relationship in my spare time (mainly afternoons). Box 446017

LET'S CLICK

WLTm a nice guy with a similar nature: I'm an outgoing woman, 42, with brown hair and green eyes. Tell me about you! Box 446847

A FINE ROMANCE

Pleasant female, 43, medium/large build, blue/green eyes, grown up children, beach walks, relaxing, reading, wine, seeks sincere male with GSOH, for LTR. Box 429071

COME ON DOWN!

Honest, bubbly female 45, long hair, slim, enjoys walking, cinema, socialising; seeks honest, friendly chap for friendship leading to more. Box 882693

IT'S WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT!

44yr old female, blonde hair 5ft5, slim, easygoing, enjoy many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with! Box 436810

EVERLASTING LOVE

Beautiful black female, 46, WLTm a caring, gentle and loving gentleman, 45-60, 5ft10+, pref a bit sporty, for a everlasting relationship. Tunbridge Wells Box 445407

SOUND GOOD?

Hi I'm Lynne 46, 5ft4, dark hair/eyes, love reading/writing, going out, astrology, cars; seeking honest, caring, outgoing guy to enjoy music, fun, friendship and more! Box 449186

HI EVERYONE, I'M

Debbie, 46, slim, 5ft5, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for a man, 44-49, 5ft7+, with a nice appearance, preferably a n/s. Box 449422

FANCY A FILM?

Hi I'm Pam, 47, 5ft11, brown hair, hazel eyes, slimmerish, divorced, looking for a LTR with a nice and genuine man. No time-wasters please! Heathfield. Box 448626

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Lonely 48yr old woman with a second home in Lanzarote, 5ft6, fairly slim, hazel eyes, looking for a man to share fun times with. Box 450310

JUST IMAGINE

Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTm genuine male, to see where life takes us. Box 893562

WHERE R U?

Cheerful, honest, popular blonde, 50yrs old, 5ft2, slim build, looking to find an honest, loyal man, lan please call again/leave contact details. Box 887347

HERE AND NOW

Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS...

I'm 51, fed up with playing solitaire on the computer! Sincere and loving, enjoy many interests, looking for friendship, hopefully leading to more. Box 981711

BRING THE SPARKLE

Looking for a fun-to-be-with male, to make me laugh! I'm a fit and active woman, 51, 5ft4, dark hair/blue eyes. I like socialising, and working hard. Box 450176

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CARING & PROFESSIONAL

Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings Box 417100

HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO

Londoner new to the area, 57, 5ft5, slim attractive blonde, seeking a man for serious relationship and lasting happiness. Box 449587

SOMETHING NEW

Caring female with GSOH, 58, 5ft2, brown hair/eyes, likes beach walks, theatre, holidays and music; WLTm male with GSOH, genuine, for friendship, maybe more. Eastbourne. Box 447682

WALKS ALONG THE COAST

Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622

HAPPY AS ME

Fun-to-be with, happy, contented lady (60), 5ft4, I enjoy theatre, dining out and having friends round for a meal, gardening and pets. Box 882812

Women seeking women

IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS

I'm a 26yr old female, looking for new friends and maybe that special girl...Let's have a meal and a drink and see what happens! Box 448722

FRIENDSHIP, HOPEFULLY MORE

Feminine woman, easygoing, caring, 45, long brown hair, blue eyes. I love music, eating out, reading/writing, drives, weekends away. WLTm boyish female. Box 883376



MEN seeking women

INTO OUR PYJAMAS...

I'm 32 and like camping, fishing, walking, karate and enjoying myself. I'm always up for a laugh and WLTm someone with similar interests. Box 881509

FOR LOVE

Hard-working male, 29, 5ft10, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, plays hard! Likes going/seeing out, walks, pubs, loves life, seeking similar happy, trustworthy lady. Box 442752

COUNTRY LOVER

Outdoorsy-type, single male, 32, 5ft6, blond/blue eyes, good-looking. WLTm lady with similar interests, for relationship. East Sussex area. Box 450172

BOTTLE OF WINE

Hi there, I'm an easygoing male, 35, 5ft9, medium build, brown hair. I'm based in Brighton and enjoy seeing friends, drinks, cinema, walks. Box 450165

DOWN BY THE BEACH

Hi I'm Kevin, 37, 6ft, medium build, loves cinema, music, walks and the sea, seeks similar girl to find love with. Box 449844

A DEVOTED DAD SPEAKS

Slm, loving dad, 37, 6ft, honest, caring, open-minded, looking for someone special to share life, love and laughs with. Deal area. Box 449502

NICE TO MEET YOU

Genuine single guy, 37, worked hard all my life now needs to play hard, seeking loving lady to have loads of fun and more with. Box 449538

EVERYTHING I DO

Lee, 36yr old, 6ft3, dark hair, like pubs, clubs, wine bars, places of interest, sports and reading, with a woman for friendship and romance. Box 889720

TRUSTWORTHY

Margate man, 37, 6ft3, dark hair, nice big build. I work in residential care which I love. I'm down-to-earth, kind, tactile, with a GSOH. Box 423437

MAKE ME SMILE AGAIN

Seeking genuine lady. I'm a 38yr old male, 5ft9, dark hair/blonde eyes. I want hard and play hard, would like to enjoy spare time with partner. Box 449649

HOP ON!

Hi I'm Mark, 6ft, slim/medium build, lots of interests including motorcycles, WLTm a kind and honest female to share fun times and laughter with. Box 445124

MAKE YOUR MARK

Hi I'm Mark, 40, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, WLTm someone trustworthy and caring. Box 448372

TO ENJOY LIFE

Hi I'm Mark, 40, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, WLTm someone trustworthy and caring to settle down with. Box 448377

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

Art-loving 40yr old, 5ft9, brown hair/eyes, into motorbikes and weight-lifting, looking for a trustworthy female for friendship to start off with, then who knows? Box 448928

DO YOU FEEL THE SAME?

Hi ya, I'm Ian, 40, 5ft10, medium build, likes a quiet life style, looking for someone who can love/accept me for who I am. Box 450283

ALL YOURS?

Sticky, reliable and very lovely man, 40, big bear with a big heart, looking for his soul-mate to alternate with for ever. Box 881373

THE WIND BENEATH YOUR WINGS

Guy of 40, outgoing, fun, tall, told I'm handsome, easygoing, looking to meet a nice, attractive lady to sweep off her feet. Box 883376

PUT THE SPICE BACK IN!

Family orientated guy, 41, separated, looking to find a lady who wants the fun and company of a partner back into their life. Box 884085

YOU'RE THE ONE THAT I WANT

Caring 41yr old male, 5ft11, short brown hair, blue eyes, enjoy theme parks, cinema, bowling, looking for a lady, 18-32, for friendship, maybe a relationship. Box 450316

LOVE ON THE DANCEFLOOR

Outgoing, young-minded male, 47, smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 443750

SEARCHING FOR LOVE

Genuine single fella, 41, worked hard all my life now need to find love, seeking loving lady to have loads of fun and more with. Box 884098

DOWN TO MARGATE!

Young-looking, slim male, 43yr old, 5ft10, enjoys beach walks and cinema, with a mature lady for a committed long term relationship. Margate. Box 441706

DON'T FORGET THIS ONE!

Hi, I'm Steve, 40s, 6ft2, muscular build, likes pubs/clubs and sport, WLTm a female, 40-46, for an everlasting relationship. Box 445541

LEAN ON ME

Very romantic, caring & loyal male, 44, slim, blue eyes, fair hair, gosh, seeks lady with similar interests for hopeful long term relationship. Hastings. Box 446120

VERY ENDEARING

Cheeky, happy, fit, intelligent 44yr old guy seeks an attractive, intelligent, fun-loving girl to take out and chat with and love forever. Box 450284

ALL NIGHT LONG

I'm 44, dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft6, loves the cinema and beach walks, music, nights in and out, cooking; seeking female 35-52 for promising relationship. Box 449992

MUSCLE MUSCLE MAN

Muscular mid 40s black guy, 5ft11, great SOH, WLTm attractive slim build with GSOH, for loving encounters and uncomplicated relationship. Box 450058

TAKE MY BREATH AWAY!

Loving single dad, 45, loves his pubs and clubs and running, keeping fit, slim, medium height, seeks similar for mutual fun and companionship... Box 450185

A TONED BODY...

Warm, friendly, affectionate male, 46, has plenty of love to give to the right woman, all I need to do is find her! Box 450300

CANT SMILE WITHOUT YOU

Carpenter with own house, 47, looking for a LTR, single mothers are welcome! Loves family life, cooking and beach walks. Box 449274

HAPPY TOGETHER

White male, 46, 5ft7, easygoing, n/s, loves a laugh, enjoys theme parks, concerts, romantic walks, wltm female to be happy with. Tammy please call again! lost number! Box 444339

THE START OF SOMETHING LASTING?

Hi I'm 48, hard working, live Eastbourne, seeking female for friendship and companionship and seeing what might happen! Box 447693

TEXT REPLY:

For your protection, you will not be allowed to swap contact details until you have exchanged five messages each. **GUIDELINES:** Private individuals seeking long-term, monogamous relationships may advertise in your Kent dating. We suggest that ads contain a self-description, age range, and lifestyle description. We reserve the right to refuse or edit any ad for any reason. Ads may not be submitted by persons younger than 18 years of age for publication in your Kent dating. Also, no ads will be published seeking persons younger than 18 years of age.</

MOTORS NEWS



Mini crop top lights up gloomy motor market

NEXT weekend marks the showroom debut of a car that could lighten current gloom – the Mini Convertible Mk II.

The market has waited two years longer for an all-new Mini crop top than for the hatchback – here first in Cooper (£15,995) and Cooper S (£18,995) forms.

If the original wore decapitation awkwardly, the newcomer is more harmonious with roof up or down. Prominent roll bars behind each rear seat have gone too, replaced by a single bar that extends only if a crash is imminent.



Urban Cruiser, the 'Son of RAV', is coming soon

TOYOTA launches its answer to 'townie crossovers' like the Nissan Qashqai and Kia Soul, next month.

The eye-catching Urban Cruiser uses expertise honed by the Japanese giant's experience with the RAV4 series, but notes the motor market's desire to downsize and for SUVs (sports utility vehicles) to be less obtrusive. So the Urban Cruiser is compact and uses a 1.4-litre diesel, but still looks muscular and, Toyota insists, will be 4x4... but let's not bet against a front-wheel drive model later.



Patriot's sparks Jeep revolution from inside

JEEP has clearly listened to repeated complaints about the Achilles heel of its otherwise clever bargain basement 4x4, the Patriot – poor quality interior design and finishing.

The car has an all-new instrument panel, redesigned centre console, remodelled door trim, carpeted boot floor and premium floor mats plus new sound systems. Yet prices are even more competitive than before, starting from under £15,000, which is family hatchback money for a proper off-roader.



MORE NEW THAN OLD: BMW's 1-Series Coupé is a spiritual successor to the original two-door E3 but boasts something the older car never had in the UK, an excellent diesel option

BMW's reborn classic

ROAD TEST BMW 1-SERIES

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

despite using run-flat tyres to free the boot from packing a spare.

It also boasts access to something the E30 never had in the UK – some of the best diesel engine options in this class.

The 120d (£21,385) is the entry model for the whole range as well as the diesels, yet powers the car to 62mph in just 7.6 seconds.

Its 123d flagship sister, as tested here, does the job in 7.0 secs; all petrol versions better that, of course, but you are still getting a sporting BMW plus diesel economy and even our 123d should average some 50mpg.

What an engine too – twin turbochargers for loads of power across the range, plus the smoothness of a petrol unit.

And it is a proper four-seater, though rear legroom is cramped and you will tire of having to re-adjust either front seat after allowing rear passengers in and out.

It comes with BMW's impressive EfficientDynamics (ED) package, delivering here and now economies and lower emissions without compromising what we can still enjoy about driving, and includes a 'stop-start' facility that cuts and smoothly re-starts the engine when stationary in traffic or at the lights.



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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

CHRYSLER VOYAGER



COMMERCIAL and private buyers made the Voyager a big hit for Chrysler in the UK. All versions seat seven, but there is more demand for the extra luggage space of 13-inch longer 'Grand' models and those featuring Stow 'n' Go: under floor stowage that also takes the folded seats when not needed. The smooth and powerful post-2004 diesel auto is the powertrain to go for. Voyagers ride comfortably, but bulk, small wheels and vague steering make for a dull drive.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

KIA SEDONA



NEVER mind the quality, feel the width describes the Kia Sedona (1999-2006). Replaced by a more sophisticated model, the original is a cheap, reliable and capacious used buy though the interior is tacky, safety features were not up with rivals and it feels lumpy on rural roads, though excelling as a comfy motorway muncher. The post-2002, 125bhp diesel is the engine to go for if the budget will stretch. Sliding rear doors and a big tailgate make access easy.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

FORD GALAXY



IF Renault's Espace distilled the essence of the people carrier, Ford mass-produced it. The 1995-vintage Galaxy plus VW Sharan and Seat Alhambra clones sold well through space and car-like handling. The latter pair are still going strong and should be considered if you want something later yet cannot run to the excellent post-2006 second generation Galaxy. Reliability on early 'Mark I' Galaxies is flaky so post-2000 diesels are the pick of the used crop.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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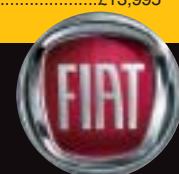
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05 55 Seat Ibiza 1.4 16v Sport 3-Door Hatchback 38,000 miles	£4,995	07 56 Kia Sportage 2.0 CRDi VGT XE 5-Door Station Wagon 9,868 miles	£10,995
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C-MAX, 2.0 Zetec 5dr Auto, ya07vbd, metallic tonic abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, child locks, computer, driver airbag, foglights, front armrest, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, seatbelt labels, side airbags, radio/cd, spoiler, rear headrests, tinted glass, blue, 6947 miles, £9695, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 2.0 Titanium 5dr Auto, y07phk, metallic verdigris, 17 alloys, privacy glass, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, seatback tables, radio/cd, sunblind, green, 4510 miles, £9995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate], cd080ue, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports pack, tech pack. insurance group:5, black, 10197 miles, £3395, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Style 5dr Auto [Climate], ey57hjk, adjustable seats, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports pack, insurance group:5, black, 10197 miles, £3395, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate] Sport & Tech Pack, oe08kjin, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports pack, insurance group:4, black, 13396 miles, £8395, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Freedom 5dr, gk56uke, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, bluetooth, air conditioning. insurance group:4, black, 24338 miles, £6995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate], gk06pha, metallic moonst, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, electric windows, foglights, 34398 miles, £6795, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

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FIESTA, 1.6 Ghia 5dr Auto, rj57apf, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:7, black, 7453 miles, £8695, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr Full LEATHER, dg08cdz, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, silver, 20504 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style 3dr [Climate], fg57udu, metallic tango, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:4, red, 7221 miles, £6900, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Freedom 3dr, gk07vwx, metallic tonic, abs, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:4, blue, 16956 miles, £7495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 TDCi Zetec S 3dr SMC Demo, gk08uid, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:7, silver, 12132 miles, £7495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Ghia 5dr, aa08ufd, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:7, silver, 12132 miles, £7495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Ghia 5dr full leather, gk06awv, metallic moonst, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:7, silver, 26493 miles, £6495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate] Sport & Tech Pack, gk07vhu, metallic tonic, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports pack, tech pack. insurance group:4, blue, 18656 miles, £7295, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Ghia 5dr **ONLY 9926 MILES+735 TAX**
yk57umt, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen. insurance group:5, silver, 8738 miles, £7490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Ghia 5dr **ONLY 9926 MILES+735 TAX**
yk57umt, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen. insurance group:5, silver, 8738 miles, £7490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Ghia 5dr **ONLY 9926 MILES+735 TAX**
yk57umt, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen. insurance group:5, silver, 8738 miles, £7490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Ghia 5dr **ONLY 9926 MILES+735 TAX**
yk57umt, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen. insurance group:5, silver, 8738 miles, £7490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr metallic amethyst, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, purple, 5831 miles, £8990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate], gk07wlv, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen. insurance group:4, blue, 22643 miles, £6990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate], b57tax, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, radio/cd, rear headrests, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, heated front windscreen. insurance group:5, blue, 17938 miles, £6990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate], ad08yjh, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, excellent prices paid for part exchanges, low finance rates available, with over 400 cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:5, blue, 13440 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Ghia 5dr Auto, n08ukj, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, low finance rates available, excellent prices paid for part exchanges. insurance group:7, blue, 11018 miles, £9995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 TDCi Titanium 5dr, gk06wlv, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric windows, side airbags, radio/cd, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:7, blue, 14283 miles, £11900, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Titanium 5dr, gk08vnd, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric windows, side airbags, radio/cd, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:7, grey, 12923 miles, £10900, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 ST-3 3dr, gn56mf, 18 alloys, 22000 miles, £11995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 Titanium 3dr, gk08xex, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric windows, side airbags, radio/cd, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, 18 alloys, bluetooth handfree and voice control, privacy glass, sports pack, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking. insurance group:7, black, 4000 miles, £11495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Titanium 5dr, gk08kvv, metallic ocean, abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric windows, side airbags, radio/cd, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:7, blue, 14301 miles, £10900, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5dr metallic vision, sports pack, 18 alloys, rear park assist, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, lumbar support, immobiliser, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, blue, 3000 miles, £13900, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Ghia 5dr Auto, kb07gzg, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, colour coding body, heated screen. insurance group:6, blue, 34435 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.0 TDCi Ghia 5dr [Euro 4], mv07wzv, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:9, grey, 36300 miles, £8990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

A140, Classic ONLY 27K MILES, 2004, comet grey, metallic, 27147 miles, £5995, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A150, 5 door Avantgarde SE, 2008, mountain grey metallic, 5000 miles, £14498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

A150, 3 door Classic SE, 2008, horizon blue metallic, 50 miles, £11000, Maidstone, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A150, 3 door Classic SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 4000 miles, £13650, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A150, 3 door Classic SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 6000 miles, £11495, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A150, 5 door Classic SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 4000 miles, £11995, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A150, 3 door Classic SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 5000 miles, £11495, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A150, Avantgarde SE Automatic, 2009, jupiter red, 1476 miles, 2009, 1498, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

A160 CDI, 5 DOOR Avantgarde SE, 2008, mountain grey metallic, 5000 miles, £15800, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B150, SE, 2009, cosmos black metallic, 2000 miles, £19900, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B150, SE New Generation, 2008, horizon blue metallic panoramic roof, 6500 miles, £13995, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

B150, MAV, 2008, polar silver metallic, 4000 miles, £13995, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

B170, Sport, 2008, lotus blue metallic, 5000 miles, £16238, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

B170, MAV Sport, 2009, polar silver metallic, 1800 miles, £20750, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, MAV SE, 2008, atoll blue metallic, 17547 miles, £16495, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, MAV SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 9154 miles, £16490, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, MAV SE, 2008, horizon blue metallic, 10152 miles, £15998, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, MAV SE, 2008, atoll blue metallic, 8369 miles, £15998, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, Sport, 2009, cosmos black metallic, 2456 miles, £17998, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, MAV SE, 2007, dune gold metallic, 21906 miles, £12995, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

B180 CDI, SE Automatic, 2007, polar silver, 18000 miles, £14499, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

B200 CDI, MAV Sport, 2008, horizon blue metallic, 3312 miles, £19999, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

B200 CDI, Sport ***FANTASTIC 2008, 2008, polar silver metallic, 1600 miles, £18498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

C180 KOMPRESSOR, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 13527 miles, £16846, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

C200, Sport, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 11511 miles, £24999, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C200, Elegance**Internet Reduction**, 2008, tansanit blue metallic, 6376 miles, £21590, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C200, Sport, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 2575 miles, £26742, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

C200, SE Kompressor Avantgarde Avantgarde SE, 2006, obsidian black metallic, 46226 miles, £12499, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

C200 CDI, Sport, 2008, cubanite silver metallic, 9814 miles, £26995, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

C200 CDI, Sport, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 9495 miles, £22998, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

C200 CDI, SE Avantgarde Auto**Internet Reduction**, 2005, cubanite silver metallic, 29921 miles, £11690, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

C200 CDI, Elegance, 2008, cubanite silver metallic, 4700 miles, £23000, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

MG

TF, 1.8 135 16v 2dr, gf04whz, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, immobiliser, head restraints, radio/cassette, power assisted steering, remote locking, sports seats. insurance group:12, silver, 20000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

COLT, 1.1 C21 3dr, ly08gwm, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, electric windows, folding rear seats, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:3, 3yrs / 37500 mile free servicing with this car, saving, red, 64 miles, £5995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 D1-D C22 5dr Auto, gk08yvj, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, blue, 8500 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 C2T Black Hawk 3dr, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, and theft system, central locking, computer, electric mirrors, black, 100 miles, £9995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 D1-D C22 5dr Auto, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, list price, grey, 50 miles, £8795, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.1 Attivo, gk58vfp, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, passenger airbag, remote locking, blue, 30195, £6095, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.3 C22 5dr, gk58vrf, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, radio/cd, power assisted steering, locking wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel, black, 1500 miles, £9395, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.3 C22 5dr, gk58vrf, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, radio/cd, power assisted steering, locking wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel, black, 1500 miles, £9395, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

2004 04 SAAB 9-3 1.9TiD Linear, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Diesel, 47,000 miles, Metallic Steel Grey, ABS, Air con, Alarm, Alloys, Audio remote control, Body coloured bumpers, Full Service History, Drivers airbag, Full Electric pack, Immobiliser, Park distance control, Isofix child seat anchor points, PAS, Passenger airbag, Radio/CD, Remote central locking, Service indicator, Side airbags, Solid Paint, Traction control**£8,000**

2005 55 SAAB 9-3 1.9TiD Vector Sport, 4 Doors, Auto, Saloon, Diesel, 85,000 miles, Metallic Nocturne Blue. 3x3 point rear seat belts, ABS, Alarm, Alloys, Body coloured bumpers, Climate control, Cruise control, Drivers airbag, Full Electric pack, Immobiliser, Isofix child seat anchor points, PAS, Radio/CD, Rear armrest, Rear electric windows, Rear headrests, Remote central locking, Reverse parking aid, Service indicator, Side airbags, Solid Paint**£6,995**

2002 52 SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 63,260 miles, Steel Grey, ABS, Alloys, Cruise control, Heated seats, Full Electric pack, Park distance control, Remote locking, Side airbags, Sports seats, Traction control, Climate control, In Car Entertainment, Warranty, Interior upholstery, Met paintwork, Tinted glass**£5,495**

2000 52 SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 63,260 miles, Steel Grey, ABS, Alloys, Cruise control, Heated seats, Full Electric pack, Park distance control, Remote locking, Side airbags, Sports seats, Traction control, Climate control, In Car Entertainment, Warranty, Interior upholstery, Met paintwork, Tinted glass**£5,495**

2000 52 SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 63,260 miles, Steel Grey, ABS, Alloys, Cruise control, Heated seats, Full Electric pack, Park distance control, Remote locking, Side airbags, Sports seats, Traction control, Climate control, In Car Entertainment, Warranty, Interior upholstery, Met paintwork, Tinted glass**£5,495**

COLT, 1.5 D1-D C22 5dr, yf57chj, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests. insurance group:5, blue, 5349 miles, £7495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr, gk08yvcg, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, locking wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel, park distance control, remote locking. insurance group:8, saving, silver, 150 miles, £13995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.6 Elegance 4dr Auto, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:9, grey, 12000 miles, £7395, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 2.0 Sport 5dr, gd05hnr, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, multi function steering wheel, rear headrests, rear armrest, sports seats. insurance group:12, grey, 33000 miles, £4795, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 2.0 D1-D GS3 4dr "Chrome Pack", l080zrj, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control. insurance group:8, this car also has the latest styling kit. chrome mirror covers, chrome door handles, chrome boot trim and door entry guards worth over, grey, 15500 miles, £12495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.6 Equipee 5dr Auto, gf57ylr, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:9, black, 15000 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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Senior & General Appointments 44-47

HR Person

An opportunity for an experienced HR professional to work with a food wholesale company based in Goudhurst, Kent. This could suit an experienced HR Officer or Adviser, either qualified by experience or part CIPD. Role to include aspects of Health and Safety. Salary will be negotiable and dependent upon relevant experience.

If you would like to be considered for this position, your CV with covering letter indicating your salary expectations, should be sent by post or e-mail, to: **Georgina Davis, Human Resources** Turners Fine Foods, Spelmonden Farm Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1HE e-mail: georgina@turnersfinefoods.co.uk

Tenterden & District Age Concern Day Care Centre

Age Concern Day Centre Manager – We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and experienced person to manage the day to day running and organisation of the Day Centre, which provides a variety of day care services for older people.

NVQ 3 in Care or equivalent qualification essential.
Previous experience of working with older people preferred.
Working hours – 35 hours per week
Annual leave 20 days plus statutory Bank Holidays.
Starting salary not less than £18,000.00 pa, depending on experience and qualifications.

Secretary/administrative support – We also require a flexible and adaptable person to work on a part-time basis offering secretarial and administrative support to the Age Concern Day Centre Manager and staff.

An ability to work with older people an advantage.
Working hours – 9.00 to 12.30pm Monday to Friday
Salary £8.00 per hour
Annual leave 20 days plus statutory Bank Holidays.

For details contact Nicky Tredway 01580 762882.
Tenterden & District Day Centre, Church Road, Tenterden. TN30 6AT

Closing date April 17th 2009

All appointments subject to Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau checks.

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The Folkestone academy

Required for April 2009

TEACHER/INSTRUCTOR OF DANCE
(Temporary Full Time Contract for Two Terms)

A qualified teacher or Instructor of Dance is needed to work within our thriving faculty of Performing and Expressive Arts from 20th April to 17th July 2009. The Academy's facilities are outstanding with a fully equipped dance studio with sprung floor and mirrors, adjoining a state of the art drama studio and fully functioning performance theatre. This presents an exciting opportunity to work within this prestigious specialist Arts Academy.

Details and an application pack are available from our website: www.folkestoneacademy.com Alternatively, please telephone Sally Taylor on 01303 842409

Closing date: 5pm on Tuesday 31 March 2009

The Folkestone Academy is committed to the safeguarding of children. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

The Folkestone Academy, Academy Lane, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5FP • Tel: 01303 842400 Email: admin@folkestoneacademy.com



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Sales Executives
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Learn to Care is looking for self-motivated **Assessors** with relevant experience and qualifications to assess **Health and Social Care** and/or **Customer Service**.

You must be a positive team member, well organised, excellent communicator, enthusiastic and resourceful. Own transport is essential as assessing is carried out at the learner's workplace.

Call **01227 265 899 (opt 3)** or email r.hawking@enterprisingopps.org.uk for further information. **Deadline 9th April 2009.**

ICT TECHNICIAN REQUIRED

Pent Valley Technology College

Hours: 8.00am – 4.00pm, Monday to Friday

Salary: Kent Scheme 5 (£16,627 – £18,288)

This post requires an advanced computer user and involves performing basic diagnostic and recovery routines on network equipment, performing basic PC hardware repairs and upgrades. Implementing and suggesting improvements to school backup, virus protection and security policies. Tracking expenditure against an agreed budget and purchasing lower value items. The candidate will also produce instruction sheets and help train and advise both staff and pupils.

Are you self motivated, good at problem solving, customer focused and have a sense of humour? If so, we want to hear from you.

Previous experience of working as an ICT technician or similar role is required. Required to work some Saturdays in exchange for a weekday when requested.

For more information and an application pack please contact:

Miss S Spratley, Pent Valley Technology College,
Surrenden Road, Folkestone, Kent. CT19 4ED.

Email: samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk
Tel: 01303 277161 ext 2218 Fax: 01303 279342

Closing Date: Friday 3rd April 2009

Interview Date: Week commencing Monday 6th April 2009

Achievement for all

Dover District Carers' Support

PROJECT WORKER

37.5 hrs per week (part-time may be considered for the right applicant)

Salary (NJC Scale 4): £17,574

One year fixed term (possibility to extend subject to longer-term funding)

The organisation provides support, advice and information to people over the age of 18 who care (unpaid) for a relative or friend. We are funded, in part, by Social Services and have contact with many other public and private sector bodies.

For this post we are looking for a sensitive, confident, versatile and articulate person who will champion the role of Carers. They will provide support and information on the phone or to Carers calling in at our newly opened Carers' Centre. This busy and demanding role will also include liaising with our many contacts to provide a quality service, as well as being involved in new projects. The work will be both office-based and involve regular travel to meetings and projects outside the office.

A full driving licence and your own transport are essential for this role.

For an application pack, please write to:

Tricia Cole, Manager, DDCS, 10 Victoria Road, Deal, Kent CT14 7AP

For further information email: sue@carers-doverdistrict.org Closing date: Friday 24 April 2009

Please note this is NOT a Careworker post.

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Helping disadvantaged people to take control of their lives and create a valued future of their choice.

Carr-Gomm is an award winning charity, set up in 1965 to provide high quality housing, care and support. We offer a wide range of services to over 4,000 people each year, including floating support to individuals in their own homes, in accommodation that we provide, and day services. We have successfully won five new contracts, supporting disadvantaged people across the county, and need to build our teams in the region.

Floating Support Workers £20,374

West Kent, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge, Malling –

Women fleeing domestic abuse (ref KFSW DAW)

West Kent – Substance misuse (ref KFSW SMW) Alcohol (ref KFSW ALW)

East Kent – Substance misuse and young people at risk (ref KFSW SM/YPE)

Floating Support Assistants £13,434

West Kent, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge, Malling –

Women fleeing domestic abuse (ref KSA DAW)

West Kent – Substance misuse, alcohol (ref KSA ALW)

East Kent – Substance misuse and young people at risk (ref KSA SM/YPE)

These challenging and rewarding roles will see you providing support using Person Centered Planning tools to people so that they can maintain their accommodation and live independently within their own homes.

Floating Support Workers will need experience of working with people from the specific client group/s for each service, knowledge of the welfare benefits system and relevant legislation. Meanwhile Support Assistants will need experience of working with vulnerable or disadvantaged people within their community, and knowledge of the welfare benefits system.

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Closing date: 1st April 2009.

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Closing date: Friday 17 April 2009

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

More effort into saving energy pays dividends

CASH-conscious businesses have by now found ways of reducing their electricity, gas and water costs by negotiating lower charges and moving to lower energy lighting.

But these savings will soon be eaten up by further increases in prices and carbon taxes says Martyn Young, pictured right, who runs Blean-based Atlantic Business Resources.



"A cost-effective solution is to educate your staff into minimising usage," he said.

"A good way to start is to appoint an 'energy champion' with responsibility for reducing usage. With weekly meter readings, usage can be charted on the wall.

"By engaging staff in this way you are ensuring continuity of effort, rather than one-off training which often gets forgotten. Employee involvement can easily reduce utility costs by ten per cent.

"For higher usage businesses there are energy monitoring and control systems which will take readings every 30 minutes and provide information.

"These cost from about £3,500 upwards, but can easily pay back within one to two years of savings. There are interest-free loans available through the Carbon Trust, and they also attract 100 per cent capital allowances."

Free start-up seminar

PEOPLE thinking of working for themselves are being offered a free training seminar on how to survive and thrive in the recession.

Called Let's Talk Starting In Business, it will be at Barclays business centre in North Street, Ashford, on Friday.

It's run by Capitalise Business Support (CBS) in conjunction with NFEA, the national enterprise network.

CBS managing director Sean Dennis said the aim was to have more workshops in Ashford and Maidstone during the year.

And would-be bosses can also discuss the possibility of finance.

Details on www.barclays.co.uk/seminars, or phone 0845 601 8326.

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Julie Maddocks asks: "Is small really beautiful in business?" Search 'crunch'

Ride property boom when the tide turns

Heart of the county will see rapid recovery, delegates are told

■ BY TONY PATEY

PROPERTY prices in central Kent will boom again once the economy starts moving out of recession.

The message was clear from county-based industry expert John Elliott at a workshop on this year's outlook for property in the Weald and west Kent.

Mr Elliott, managing director of Millwood Designer Homes, based in Tonbridge, said although current trading remained tough, "stock was beginning to move and individuals could obtain mortgage finance, although on more stringent terms".

He told delegates at the meeting, run by local law firm Thomson Snell & Passmore, that once the turning point in the general economy comes the recovery in the property market would be "rapid".

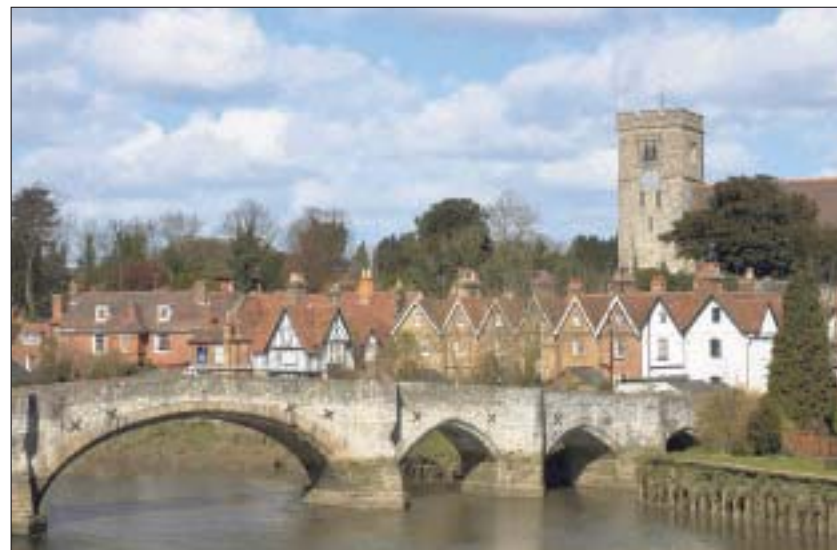
"As developers would be unlikely to get their existing 'mothballed' sites on line quickly enough to satisfy demand, prices would rise again as fewer sites came on to the market to satisfy need."

Simon Richardson, of the South East England Development Agency (Seeda), said the outlook was mixed.

He added that surveys showed businesses in Kent were less pessimistic about the future than their counterparts in the rest of the South East.

However, he said, the numbers of residents employed in the financial services sector meant the Weald and west Kent area was likely to be more vulnerable to the effects of the credit crunch than other parts of the county.

A discussion group on regeneration and renewal concluded the area was held back by



SAFE AS HOUSES: Aylesford and other parts of central Kent are well placed for the post-recession rebound

factors such as poor road transport links and higher priority for investment given to other areas such as Thanet or the Thames Gateway.

Another group discussing rural and agricultural issues said the rural community had been sustained over a number of years by diversification into other activities.

However, farmers were often prevented from diversifying due to complicated planning rules and regulations and, more recently, restricted finance.

Demand among farmers to develop their businesses was not matched by political will.

Regarding rental property, it was concluded

that in the current market landlords must be prepared to offer more flexible terms to attract and retain tenants and keep up their income, including break clauses and rent-free periods.

In the meantime, developers who had options over potential sites were not exercising them because funding was not generally available for residential development unless sites were wholly pre-let.

So the conclusion was that the Weald and west Kent area is in a good position to take advantage of the upturn when it comes, and what was needed were effective council-led initiatives and a stronger infrastructure.



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HARD SEASON: Deal & Betteshanger hope to put aside injury problems with a victory on Saturday

Injured Lions hope to claw back a win

RUGBY

INJURY-ravaged Deal & Betteshanger are hoping for a strong finish to a difficult season in London South East 3.

The Lions have been troubled by a number of injuries to key players this term, which has left the side towards the bottom of the table in seventh spot.

Despite missing players, Deal & Betteshanger recorded an impressive 11-9 win over high-flying Warlingham last Saturday.

Director of rugby David Storrie described the injury crisis as "horrific" and feels Saturday's clash with fellow strugglers Purley John Fisher is a huge game for the club.

He said: "I struggle to remember a time when we had our first-choice XV fit. We do not have the money that clubs like Tonbridge Juddian have, so we cannot buy players in."

"Neither team wants to be in the position they are in so I hope we can get back to winning ways."

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Gills boss Mark Stimson reveals latest on Luis Cumbers' future at the club



WINNING WAYS: Folkestone Invicta moved closer to the top ten in Ryman South with a hard-fought victory. Boss Neil Cugley was delighted with the way that his team held on to their single-goal lead

Seasiders eye top-ten finish after Everitt grabs winner

FOOTBALL

BY YOURSHEPWAY REPORTER

Folkestone Invicta 1

J Everitt 14

Eastbourne Town 0



Folkestone starting XI



Subs used: Neilson (Vincent 50), Swallow (J Everitt 70)

A JAMES Everitt goal after just 14 minutes handed Invicta three points at Cheriton Road on Saturday, against an Eastbourne team still harbouring outside hopes of making the play-offs.

Neil Cugley made just one change to the side that won 2-0 at Merstham midweek, drafting in Everitt for loan signing Jacob Arnold-Smith, who was unavailable due to commitments with the Gillingham youth side.

It was either lucky or inspired, with Everitt proving the difference after 90 minutes that Folkestone dominated, despite their failure to kill the game off.

Invicta nearly took the lead in the first minute when Everitt's brother Michael found himself one-on-one with the Eastbourne keeper, only to lob his effort over the bar.

The only goal of the game came when Darren Smith whipped in a corner from the right. Eastbourne failed to get a head to the ball and

it fell to Everitt, who was lurking with intent at the back post, where he toe-poked the ball into the net.

Invicta were in charge for the rest of the half, but having failed to build on their lead they were vulnerable in the second period.

Yet the home side still looked the more likely scorers, with Jimmy Jackson setting up James Dryden for an effort that went just wide and Frankie Chappell hitting the bar ten minutes from time after a Jackson corner.

Manager Neil Cugley was satisfied with his

side's performance, despite the narrow margin of victory.

"We dominated the first half," he told Yourshepway. "It was just the final ball that wasn't quite good enough, but we were comfortable enough going into half-time."

"To be fair Eastbourne came back into it a little and at 1-0 you're always going to be vulnerable, but it was all us really. I know I'm biased, but it was very, very pleasing."

Invicta are away to the Ryman South division's basement side Crowborough on Saturday.



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Eye condition forces Whites ace Grazioli to quit football

FOOTBALL

BY TOM HOWARD

DOVER Athletic striker Giuliano Grazioli has been forced to retire from football with immediate effect due to an eye condition.

The former Barnet striker, who joined the Whites this season, has been troubled by a build-up of pressure behind his eyes – the condition was confirmed on Thursday.

Under advice from specialists, Grazioli has been told to quit the game or risk losing his sight.

Whites boss Andy Hessenthaler was shocked by the news about Grazioli's retirement and wishes him all the best as he battles the condition.

He told Yourdover: "It has come out of the blue. We knew about Grazioli's problem and it has now been confirmed to us.

"There is a chance if he kept on playing with it he may end up losing his sight completely. It doesn't matter if you are 24 or 34, like Grazioli, you would not wish this on anyone.

"He is a great player and a gentle-

man. He is such a good player to have in the dressing room. He has real skill and he has shown that in his career with his time at Barnet.

"The chairman has said he can stay with the club until the end of the season, but he will have to hang up his boots. We are going to use him to his full capacity.

"He will go to watch Sutton for us and help coach the forwards. The most important thing for him now is to look after himself for his family."

The 34-year-old striker has had a productive playing career, making 212 starts and scoring 114 goals.

One of the highlights was his equaliser for Stevenage Borough in a fourth-round FA Cup tie against Newcastle United.

Grazioli made 11 starts and scored five times for Dover this season.

• At the weekend Dover edged another step closer to the Ryman Premier League title with a 3-2 win at Billericay Town.

The Whites opened the scoring on the half-hour through Dean Hill, only for Billericay to equalise four minutes later.

Shaun Welford regained the lead for Dover before Lee Hodges's stunning drive brought the scores level, but Lee Browning wrapped up the win just before the hour.



SAD NEWS: Giuliano Grazioli (pictured) is retiring due to an eye condition

FOOTBALL



SEARCHING: Dover boss Andy Hessenthaler is hoping to bring in a goalkeeper for the final stretch

Hess fears keeper crisis during the league title run-in

A NEW goalkeeper is top of the list for Dover Athletic boss Andy Hessenthaler as his side close in on the Ryman Premier League title.

After an injury to on-loan Millwall stopper Preston Edwards last week, Hessenthaler was forced to draft in former Margate goalkeeper Scott Chalmers-Stevens for Saturday's trip to Billericay.

However, Dover were dealt another blow as Chalmers-Stevens pulled his hamstring on Saturday, which leaves Hessenthaler searching for a goalkeeper.

The Dover boss admitted he would like to bring in two goalkeepers, even though his side have six league games remaining.

He said: "We had Scott Chalmers-Stevens come in as Preston got injured, but he pulled his hamstring in the game, so we had to have someone take his kicks for him.

"Our reserve goalkeeper is out with an injury, so we are a bit short. We have a chance to extend Preston's loan this week, so that will be something I look at."

The Whites moved closer to the Ryman Premier title on Saturday with a 3-2 win at Billericay Town thanks to goals from Dean Hill, Shaun Welford and Lee Browning.

Hessenthaler was pleased with the performance after a tough week of preparation, with the news of Giuliano Grazioli's retirement and Edwards's injury.

He added: "We always knew it was going to be a tough game as Billericay have won a lot of games at home. I think they have one of the best home records in the league.

"Considering the build-up to the game we had with the news of Grazioli and losing Edwards to injury, it was a good result.

"It is another game down and we need just two wins now."



AND THEY'RE OFF: Murray Walker will provide race-day commentary for the European Rallycross at Lydden Hill

Walker back behind the mic at Lydden

MOTORSPORT

THE voice of motorsport, Murray Walker, will return to the commentary box at Lydden Hill for the opening round of the European Rallycross Championship next month.

The legendary broadcaster will be at the Kent circuit to commentate on European Rallycross Championship's return after a 16-year absence.

Walker, who was the voice of Formula One for 52 years and rallycross during the 1970's and 1980's, is eager to visit the circuit again.

He said: "I'm really looking forward to being back at Lydden to get involved with the commentary at the European Rallycross meeting on Easter Monday.

"Rallycross is the very greatest of fun and one of the most exciting and dramatic forms of motorsport that there is - and, yes, I do include Formula One in that viewpoint."

With three weeks remaining before the event, Lydden has been inundated with entries, with more than 20 supercars already signed up, including reigning European champion Kenneth Hanson.

The event will take place on April 12-13.



CUP MISERY: A much-changed Dover side crashed out of the Kent Cup with a crushing defeat against Blackheath

Dover hang tough in cup loss

RUGBY

Blackheath 60 Dover 17

DOVER crashed out of the quarter-final of the Kent Cup following a second-half pasting from Blackheath's second-string side.

The players who made themselves available, together with the travelling support, showed a true spirit, which kept Dover in this contest for the opening 50 minutes.

Blackheath, who play in National 2, are a well organised, professional squad with an abundance of talent and for 35 minutes Dover actually had their noses in front. At

half-time the score was only 20 points to 17 in the hosts' favour.

The second half was different with the home side dominating in possession. Their general control of the game paid dividends with the flood gates opening and points being scored at a fast rate of knots.

Billy Plews, Darryl Meredith, James Morton, Ali Charge, Sam McNamara and past club captain, Colin Claw, did their utmost for the cause and they should be congratulated for their individual efforts in difficult circumstances.

Blackheath deserved their victory and passage to the semi-final. Dover face Beckenham in a league fixture at Crabble on Saturday.

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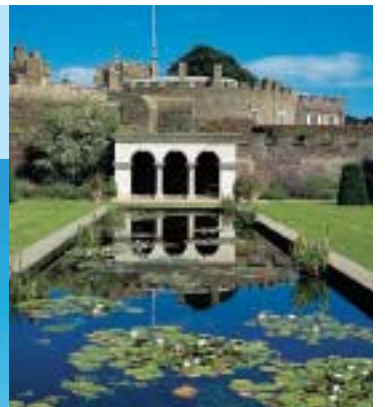


Action from Blackheath's clash with the Barbarians to mark 150-year anniversary

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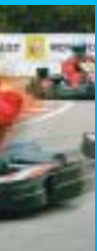
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